The Chicago Tribune.

VOLUME 25. CHICAGO, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1872.—SIX PAGES. NUMBER 200.

WASHINGTON.

Washington Treaty Matters Under Consideration in the Cabinet.

A Determination Expressed to Stand by the American Case.

Good Prospect of the Passage of Burchard's Chicago Relief Bill.

Important Decisions Rendered by Revenue Commissioner Douglass.

Passage of the Diplomatic Appropriation Bill in the House.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS QUESTION.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—It is stated, at the State Department, that all versions which have been heretofore given of the text of Earl Granville's note to the American Government in our case, are entirely unwarranted. Two copies of this letter have reached here,—one coming through Minister Thornton, and the other being forwarded to Secretary Fish by Minister Schenck. It is intimated that this note is of such a confidential character that, even if the Senate should call for it, it would not be considered advisable to comply with the request. In the Cabinet meeting to-day, Granville's note was under consideration; it having been forwarded to our Government through the two sources indicated. The session lasted about two hours, and was devoted principally to the interchange of individual views upon the present situation of the American case. Prior to the assembling of the Cabinet, most members had taken the trouble to inform themselves, through Minister Adams, who has been here for several days, as to the sentiment in England on these matters, and whether the newspaper Minister at London, Britain actually reflected the feelings of the Government and people on this point. Mr. Adams says the excitement is merely one designed for political effect. The commercial classes he believes to be in favor of paying the award of the Geneva Conference, however great it may be, providing, always, it is within the bounds of reason and justice. So far as the various members of the Cabinet are concerned, there does not appear to be one who is disposed to allowing one jot or tittle of the case as it has been made up by our counsel. There are intimations to the effect that Secretary Fish would consent to its modification rather than that the treaty should fail; but they do not appear to be governed by anything that he has said. His situation was developed in the Cabinet to-day. It would appear that the sentiment of our Government would favor retiring from the Conference altogether rather than compromise, and have the Alabama claims in the condition which they were in before the treaty was drawn up. Secretary Fish thinks it will be some time before Granville's note will be replied to, and that reply, whatever it may be, will be couched in the most friendly spirit. Before the contents of the note shall be agreed upon, however, another Cabinet meeting will be held, when a draft of the proposed reply will be submitted to the criticism of various members of our Government.

THE CHICAGO COMMITTEE AND THE RELIEF BILL.

The Chicago delegation called on the President to-day, and presented the views of the delegation upon the pending measure for relief. The President expressed himself as quite in favor of the general ends sought by the delegation. To-day, by unanimous consent, on motion, the Logan Relief bill was recommitted to the Finance Committee, for the purpose of allowing the Chicago delegation to have a hearing in the matter. Subsequently, Senator Sherman appointed next Monday morning as the time when the Committee would receive the delegation. The latter will urge that the Senate abandon the bill in its present shape and take up Burchard's, as first reported from the House, so as to avoid the return of the measure for further debate and action in the House. Logan's substitute, which passed the Senate, only differed from Burchard's by the insertion of words so as to definitely provide that material on which drawbacks were allowed should be imported for and actually used in building within the burnt district. The delegation contends that this point was sufficiently guarded in Burchard's bill, which provided that said materials shall have been imported and used during the term of one year from and after date of fire. The delegation claims that this is virtually the same in effect as the amendment in Logan's bill, since very little of what would fall within the terms of the bill, and which was imported previous to the fire, was saved. From consultations now had, the delegation have had with Senators, they feel confident that, with the aid of the votes of those who were absent when reconsideration was carried the House bill can be carried, and so the matter ended without a return to the House. Several of the delegation consider the most difficult part of this plan, however, is that which requires the Senate to abandon the verbal and technical amendment attached to the House bill. From the temper of the House, however, it is thought able opposition will manifest itself in the House in case the measure comes back to it in any shape, as those interests opposed to the bill have taken great pains to forward remonstrances to many members, and quite a number who favored the bill when passed, are now certain to oppose it. If the delegation cannot induce the Committee to agree upon the original House bill, they will next support Morrill's amendment, and vote to have white lead, linseed oil, and various forms of iron added to the list.

BILL IN REGARD TO NATIONAL BANKS IN CERTAIN CASES.

The House Committee on Banking and Currency have agreed to the following bill:

"The Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to receive United States notes on deposit, without interest, from National Banks in the cities of New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Cincinnati, and St. Louis, in sums of not less than $10,000, and to issue certificates therefor in such form as the Secretary may prescribe, and in denomination of notes of not less than $5,000, which certificates shall be payable on demand in United States notes at the places where deposits thereof are made, and certificates may be held and counted by said banks as part of their legal reserve, and be used by said banks in settlement of their Clearing House balances, and that nothing in this act shall authorize any expansion or contraction of the currency."

NEW YORK CENTRAL SCRIP.

Assessor Lathrop and Supervisor Smyth, of the Albany District, appointed by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue to examine the whole question of taxing New York Central scrip, consisting as follows: "We conclude, therefore, that the issue of these certificates was in effect an increase of capital based wholly on the prospective increase of revenue, and not a dividend of, or substitute for, accrued profits, and that whatever the obligation of the company may have been at that time, or may now be, for tax in respect of undivided profits accruing during the whole or any part of the period from 1865 to 1868, the distribution of these certificates did not create a liability to tax, and, therefore, the company was not liable for the assessment from which it has appealed." This report has been disapproved by Commissioner Douglass, and the decision of the latter furnished the Associated Press to-night.

A DECISION OF COMMISSIONER DOUGLASS OVER RULED.

Secretary Boutwell has overruled the decision of Commissioner Douglass suspending the collection of the tax on canned fruits, jellies, &c., and Schedule C, until Congress acts, so that the collection of the tax will proceed for the present.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS IN CINCINNATI.

The bill for the new public buildings in Cincinnati, which has been reported favorably from the Senate Finance Committee, will doubtless pass as it came from the House.

[To the Associated Press.]

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS QUESTION.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—The note of Earl Granville, sent to Secretary Fish through General Schenck, was read to the Cabinet to-day. A general conversation ensued, continuing several hours, in which the merits of the questions presented concerning the interpretation of the Treaty of Washington were discussed. There may be a further conference on the subject, when the reply of the Secretary of State to the friendly note shall have been prepared. While this Government does not seem disposed to modify its statement of the case, it will doubtless respond in the British suggestions in such a spirit as will clear the decks for the settlement of the questions at issue in a manner acceptable to both nations, through the tribunal of arbitration provided by the treaty. This is known to be the desire of the President and members of the Cabinet.

A application was made to-day for a copy of the British note for publication, but without success. The refusal being based on the ground that to furnish it would not only be against precedent, but disrespectful to the British Government at this stage of the proceedings; and it was further said that, by a high executive officer, that not even the substance of the British note could now be communicated through an official source, nor had it been repeated to any private parties. At the same time it was remarked that, as the note was of a friendly character and couched in delicate language, and as the reply would be in like respect, there was, therefore, no cause whatever for apprehension as to the continuance of peace between the two countries.

Hon. Charles Francis Adams remained at the Executive Mansion but a short time after the Cabinet assembled, having spent a few minutes in conversation with the President.

THE COMMERCIAL INTERESTS.

Representatives Shellabarger, of Ohio; Shellabarger, of Louisiana; Sawyer, of Wisconsin; Lynch, of Maine; Townsend, of New York constitute the sub-committee of the Committee of Commerce to prepare a bill for the revival of American commerce.

FORTIFICATION BILL.

The House Committee on Appropriations today completed the Fortification bill, appropriating nearly $2,000,000.

CABINET MEETING.

The Cabinet session was held in the President's room, all the members remaining until the close. Nothing is yet known regarding the proceedings, other than the fact of the Queen's message having been laid before the meeting, and that there was a consultation thereon.

THE MARCH INTEREST.

The Secretary of the Treasury has directed the payment of interest due March 1st on the temporaries from Monday next without rebate.

INTERNAL REVENUE DECISIONS.

The following internal revenue decisions have been rendered:

1. Commissioner Douglass decides that the issue of interest certificates to the amount of $22,000,000 on the 19th day of January, by the Erie Railway York Central Railroad Company, is substantially a stock dividend, and taxable under internal revenue laws.

2. That the admission of the Company, made, and fact of record, when said certificates were issued, that they were based on the earnings of the road, and expenditures of the Company equal in amount to 50 per cent of the stock of the Company, is conclusive, and being a voluntary admission by the Company will prevail in assigning taxation.

3. That as much dividend as belongs to the period from September, 1867, to September, 1869, is to be taxed. In this case the dividend covering in the case of Cuba, but for the recognition of her independence. Why the United States should allow Spain to insult the American flag and only grieve over the murder of her citizens? He had a list of eight peaceful American citizens who had been shot in cold blood, and nineteen who had been killed in the Cuban prisons. Others had properly confiscated. The American name and authority had been treated with supreme contempt. No redress had been given to the execution of the students and to the latest decree of Valmaseda, which he said was one of the most infamous known to history. Mexico had acknowledged the belligerent rights of the Cubans, while this country, with all it boasted power and greatness, refused to recognize the flesh and crushing the bones of their victims, was silent. It was a sad, a miserable spectacle; a spectacle pitiful to contemplate. What made it still worse was, that within three months after the first gun was fired on Fort Sumter, Spain had recognized the belligerent rights of the Southern Confederacy.

Mr. GARFIELD hoped the House would be allowed to act upon the Treaty in regard to Captain Semex Indians in Dakota; Survey of Yellowstone River; Subsidy to Mail Steamers between San Francisco and Japan and China; Subsidy to Mail Steamers between San Francisco and Australia; Subsidy to Mail Steamers between San Francisco and Honolulu; Subsidy to Mail Steamers between San Francisco and Panama; Subsidy to Mail Steamers between Key West and Havana; Subsidy to Mail Steamers between Charleston and Havana; Subsidy to Mail Steamers between Charleston and Liverpool; Subsidy to Mail Steamers between Charleston and Rio Janeiro; Subsidy to Mail Steamers between Charleston and Aspinwall; Subsidy to Mail Steamers between Charleston and Galveston; Subsidy to Mail Steamers between Charleston and New Orleans; Subsidy to Mail Steamers between Charleston and Savannah; Subsidy to Mail Steamers between Charleston and Wilmington; Subsidy to Mail Steamers between Charleston and Baltimore; Subsidy to Mail Steamers between Charleston and Boston; Subsidy to Mail Steamers between Charleston and Philadelphia; and Baltimore. Mr. Pond stated that he understood the lightering business at quarantine was a swindle on merchants from beginning to end. He had consulted Dr. Carnochan, formerly health officer of the swindle, and the community was plundered right and left.

D. K. Pond, shipmaster, testified to extortion in the towing of one of his vessels by quarantine tugboats.

Dr. Hanke testified to doing police, coachman's, groomsman's and messenger's duties for Dr. Carnochan; also to collecting fares on the quarantine steamboat when taking passengers to the city, and handing the money over to Dr. Carnochan.

THE ACCUSED JUDGES.

The investigation of the alleged corrupt Judges was continued this morning, but the sessions continue steered.

MORE TAMMANY ROGUERY.

It appears that the examination of the accounts of the Bureau of Roads, in the Department of Public Works, which was under the management of Tweed, shows that enormous charges had been made for tools and road repairs.

PICKPOCKETS.

Pocket-picking was frequent in Broadway yesterday, and some twenty arrests were made.

STABBING AFFRAY.

During an assault by Edward Schuler, on James O'Connor yesterday, the latter, in self defense, stabbed Schuler with a penknife. The assailant O'Connor was arrested to await the result of the stabbing. Both are schoolboys.

The Board of Aldermen of this city has altered its constitution so as to allow citizens to become members under certain conditions.

SMALL-POX.

Eleven new cases of small-pox the past twenty-four hours.

BOWLING GREEN SAVINGS BANK.

Another suit against Roche, Vice President of the Bowling Green Savings Bank, was brought to-day by the Receiver. The bail is fixed at $65,000. Other officials of this bank will be arrested soon.

CHILDREN BURNED TO DEATH.

Two children of F. Flanagan, of Fremont, Westchester County, were burned to death this morning, by the destruction of the shanty they lived in.

AN OLD SUIT.

An Admiralty suit to recover $100 was commenced in 1858 against L. Auderried, by E. N Kirk, was to-day decided in favor of plaintiff.

PRICE OF GOLD.

La Bandera Bonaerense, of Buenos Ayres, of the 25th January states that coffee has advanced, with sales for the fortnight of 50,000 bags for the United States.

JERSEY CITY IRREGULARITIES.

Police Justices Seymour and Keese, of Jersey City, have issued $5,000 bail for Police Chief Bedell, on charges of unlawfully imprisoning citizens. Police Commissioners Edwardson and Gross were bailed in $2,000, and Fire Commissioner Boyd in $2,000 for trial for malfeasance in office.

SUICIDE.

Henry Quackenbush, Jr., boy on the staff of the *Evening News*, committed suicide in Central Park yesterday during mental aberration.

ILLINOIS.

Cook County Bill Signed by the Governor—Certificates of Incorporation Filed—Arrested for Violation of the Bankrupt Law—Statements of Insurance Companies Filed, Etc.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 23.—The Governor to-day approved and filed in the State Department House bill No. 415, an act to enable counties having over 100,000 inhabitants to issue bonds and borrow money for county purposes. This bill has the emergency clause, and goes into effect at once. The provisions of this bill are intended to permit the County of Cook to issue bonds for the purpose of raising money, not to exceed $1,500,000, to build a new Court House and jail.

The following certificates of incorporation were filed with the Secretary of State to-day: The Star Chemical Works, of Chicago, capital stock, $20,000; the Cannon Valley Mining and Constructing Company, capital stock, $300,000, the principal office to be at Peoria; also the Rossville & Indiana Coal Company, capital stock, $100,000.

The railroad will commence at a point on the Chicago, Danville & Vincennes Railroad, in Vermilion County, Illinois, thence about five miles south of Rossville, and extend thence in a southeasterly direction through Vermilion County to a point on the State line of Indiana, and will be about five miles in length. The Commissioners to open books for subscription to the capital stock are A. B. Meeker, S. H. Jaquerstin, F. E. Jones, W. J. Logan, and J. P. Roberts.

John A. Fasten, of Quincy, arrested on a charge of having violated one of the provisions of the Bankrupt law, had a preliminary examination before United States Commissioner L. B. Adams, to-day. In default of $5,000 bail the accused was sent to jail.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Springfield & Illinois Southeastern Railroad Company will be held in this city on the 26th inst.

The case of the People v. Captain D. C. Robbins, for killing Young Bancroft, has been set for the 26th inst.

The following-named insurance companies have filed their annual statements in the office of the State Auditor, for the year 1871: The North British and Mercantile Insurance Company of London and Edinburg, Great Britain; and the Provident Savings Life Assurance Society, of New York City; Star Fire Insurance Company, of New York; Pacific Mutual, New York; Liverpool and London and Globe, of Liverpool; Lycoming Fire, of Muncy, Pa.

Death of Wash. Akers, at Ashtan, Ogle County.

ASHTON, Ogle County, Ill., Feb. 22.—Colonel George W. Akers (better known as "Wash" Akers), formerly of Shawneetown, Illinois, and subsequently of Joliet, died at his residence in this place on Wednesday morning, the 21st instant, of dyspepsia. Colonel Akers was for a time connected with the management of the State Penitentiary at Joliet and his many friends in that vicinity will learn of his death with sorrow. His death has thrown a sadness over the people of this community, who greatly regret his death, and deeply sympathize with his afflicted widow. He has resided on his farm in this vicinity for several years past.

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Dated New York, Feb. 20, 1872.

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WM. FREEMAN, Attorney for Receiver, 100 Broadway, New York.

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THE CHICAGO FIRE.

Rev. L. V. Huston, a distinguished minister of this city, with the abduction of several young ladies connected with the Sunday school of his church, St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal.

Wm. K. Holcomb was shot and instantly killed at Cedarville, Ill., on Thursday evening by his nephew, Henry Holcomb. Frank Ayodett, a policeman, subsequently shot and killed Edward Rubey, whom he attempted to arrest, and who was shooting at a crowd near his door. Kuhn was a partner of William Holcomb, whose body had been placed in his saloon. Both of the murderers are regarded as insensible.

RAILROAD DISASTER.

A Train Breaks Through a Bridge on the Louisville & Cincinnati Short Line Railroad, and Forty Persons Killed and Fifty-two Injured.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 23.—A passenger train coming north on the Louisville & Cincinnati short-line Railroad, due at Covington, Ky., at o'clock this afternoon, broke through the bridge three miles north of Ellyton Station. Twenty-six passengers were on the train, and it is reported that all were killed or wounded, and several killed. No other particulars are yet received.

LATER.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 23.—The following is a partial list of casualties on the Short Line Railroad accident: — Breck, from Sparta, Ky., killed; Morgan Cheney, Rush Creek, Perry County, injured; S. Haile, Memphis, slight; F. L. Chiles, leg broken; P. C. Middlehall, Anchorage, Ky., leg hurt; E. Tull, leg broken and badly burned; Samuel Fox, hurt; Lee Dagget, badly injured; Will Jeanette, Mobile, burt badly; R. Shea, badly hurt; Bird York, slight.

The bridge was of iron and wood, known as the Linck suspension truss. It was twenty-five feet high, and seventy feet span. It rested on two stone abutments, and was considered safe. The the train reached the bridge at 11:30 a. m., running at the rate of thirty per hour. The locomotive passed over safely only before the structure went down, and with its two passenger coaches, tender, baggage, express and mail car, and three all together in one mass of ruin below. The front passenger car was reduced to splinters, while the rear car was but little broken. The fragments of the front car were soon in flames, but by the promptness of Dallas Pullam, the engineer, they were all rescued. About eighty of the passengers were on board. Of this number two were killed and fifty-two wounded. Surgeons and physicians from Covington at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, and a locomotive followed with other surgeons a short time later. The wounded were cared for and placed in cars.

The passengers say the wounded were heaped in a horrid mass, and that the scene following was exciting in the extreme. Wounded passengers joined with citizens from the surrounding country, and officers of the train, in the work of extricating the bodies. The killed were, John G. Brock, of of Sparta, Owen County, Ky., and Harrison Julian, the colored porter of the mail. Both were badly mutilated. The mail agent was wounded, but not badly. Trains took the wounded as soon as possible to Cincinnati, arriving at 6:30 in the evening. The following is a list of the wounded: H. H. Arterton, Brownsville, Tenn., head and shoulders badly; Mrs. Levy, Columbus, Miss., head badly; Craig Mitchell, Louisville, head knocked out; Mrs. Mitchell, injured badly; B. Jacobs, Warsaw, Ky., head and legs, badly; Dr. F. Tomlinson, Mt. Sterling, Ky., arm broke and hurt badly; Mike Madden, Louisville, slightly; W. Hukell, Louisville, severely in the hips; R. Yarn, conductor, hurt all over, tongue bitten and badly hurt; Mrs. Levy, Columbus, Miss., slightly; J. P. Mosely, LaGrange, Ky., slightly; Samuel Fox, Mt. Sterling, Kentucky, New Port, Ky., badly; Maggie Powers, Rush Creek, Perry Co., Ohio, severely; Frank Dalmouth, Portsmouth, O., badly; Robert Sherrard, Canton, Miss., severe; Andy Barron, Dorsenville, O., slight head; P. McKort, Cincinnati, head, badly; J. G. Berogger, Saugerty, head, leg and arm; John A. Hunt, New Liberty, Ky., shoulder and head; Stephen Allen, New Orleans, slightly; Mrs. Odell, breast and back; two children of same, one dead, one only slightly; Nellie Clark, Chillicothe, Ohio, slightly; Carrie McGhee, Lincoln Furnace, Ohio, slightly; Wm. Clark, Chillicothe, Ohio, slightly; Jo. Leath, Cincinnati and Station, Ky., slightly; J. L. Ledman, Express messenger, slightly; P. Martindale and wife, Racine, Wis.; Mr. Sharp, Covington, Ky., badly cut; C. A. Coffin, Cleveland, face cut and breast injured; Fred. Shafer, Cincinnati, slightly; Mrs. Hewitt, Waterbury, Conn., slightly; C. B. Degroff, and Mrs. Jo DeGrafe, Winona, Minn., all slightly; J. L. Martin, Mills, Ky., slightly; Mrs. Dr. Childs, Covington, Ky., badly; Commissioner F. Conyers, Zion Station, slightly; Wm. Tull, badly; Capt. Gaff, Rush Creek, Ky., severely; Sam. Maddox, Poplar Grove, Ky., badly; E. C. Mitchael, Anchorage, Ky., severely; Jas. M. Tull, wife, Racine, Wis.; Mr. Sharp, Covington, Ky., badly cut; C. A. Coffin, Cleveland, face cut and breast injured; Fred. Shafer, Cincinnati, slightly; Mrs. Hewitt, Waterbury, Conn., slightly; C. B. Degroff, and Mrs. Jo DeGrafe, Winona, Minn., all slightly; J. L. Martin, Mills, Ky., slightly; Mrs. Dr. Childs, Covington, Ky., badly; Commissioner F. Conyers, Zion Station, slightly; Wm. Tull, badly; Capt. Gaff, Rush Creek, Ky., severely; Sam. Maddox, Poplar Grove, Ky., badly; E. C. Mitchael, Anchorage, Ky., severely; Jas. M. Tull, Louisville, slightly; Mary Martin, Springfield, O., badly, child of same slightly.

The train with the wounded arrived at Covington the sufferers were conveyed to the hotels and St. Elizabeth Hospital. Wm. Tull, of Louisville, was the only person escaping injury. The cause of the bridge giving way is not explained. Some of the mail and all of the newspapers were lost. The Covington and Cincinnati mails were saved.

UTAH.

Proceedings in the Constitutional Convention—Polygamy Sanctioned as a Condition Precedent to Admission—The Pacific Road Open—Sale of a Mine.

SALT LAKE, Feb. 23.—There was great excitement in the Convention to-day on the passage of the section in the Constitution which agrees that the terms prescribed by Congress as a condition precedent to admission, if ratified by a majority vote of the people, shall be binding. The terms prescribed by this Convention, shall thereupon constitute a part of this ordinance. Many delegates opposed it, declaring that the Mormons are generally indignant at being forced to sacrifice their hobby polygamy. The resolution finally passed through the efforts, mainly of Governor Fitch and Elder Cannon, who are accused by the Mormons of being influenced by the most mercenary motives.

Bitter dissatisfaction is expressed by the Mormon press and church at the appointment, by the General Conference of Judge Strickland to fill the vacancy during the temporary absence of McKean. The appointment merited the approbation of the entire liberal party.

The famous Flagstaff mine, at Little Cottonwood, has been sold, with the Buel furnaces, for $1,500,000.

Jas. Heath, the mail robber, has been arrested at Fort Laramie.

The Mississippi River Break-Up.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 23.—After nearly three months' partial or entire suspension to navigation from the city south, the ice gorges broke up and ran out with a rush. The river is now open to all Southern points. The gorge above the bridge piers broke about 3 o'clock, since when the great masses of ice has been floating past the city. So far as known no damage is done, except the shoving of a ferry or two and two or three barges on bank.

A despatch from Alton says the Mississippi is open up to Grafton, and the Illinois is expected to break up in a day or two. The steamers above the levee are rapidly loading, and several will leave to-morrow for the Lower Mississippi, and the Arkansas and Red Rivers.

The Anchor Line steamer Indis, Indis, from Glasgow for New York, 17 days out, has arrived at Halifax, and as American fishing schooner is in tow. The steamer lost her rudder on the 8th, and on the 31st fell in with the schooner, which she engaged to tow to Halifax for $1,000. The steamer has 150 passengers on board.

A Baltimore paper publishes an article charging the Rev. L. V. Huston, a distinguished minister of this city, with the abduction of several young ladies connected with the Sunday school of his church, St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal.

Wm. K. Holcomb was shot and instantly kill

THE BRIBERY CASES.

A Field Day in the Criminal Court.

Three Aldermen, More or Less, Tried on Five Indictments.

The Prosecution Abandoned in the Carney Case.

Walsh Acquitted Because a Witness Refuses to Criminate Himself.

He is Then Arraigned on Another Indictment.

Busse's Second Case.

On the coming in of the Criminal Court, yesterday morning, the business of the trial of Alderman charged with bribery being still in order, Busse's second came was called.

Mr. Reed stated that he was now ready to proceed with the motion for a change of venue in the indictment presented upon the testimony of Owen Dougherty, found at this term.

The Court. Is this a new indictment?

Mr. Reed stated that a mistake having occurred in the indictment presented at the December term, in charging in both indictments under the statutory provision by which it is to be tried for the greater penalty, and, therefore, the case was presented to another Grand Jury, so that a new indictment was found.

The Court. Let the motion be entered, and we will take it up hereafter.

A Walsh Case.

The indictment against Alderman James Walsh, charging him with proposing to receive from Jacob Weil $5,000 to use his influence to secure the purchase of some real estate, was called.

Mr. Reed. Mr. Weil states that there is a mistake in the indictment as to Mr. Walsh. He is not connected with that matter.

Mr. Runyan. Well, you had better dismiss it.

Mr. Reed. Is Mr. Rees here?

Bailiff. No.

Mr. Reed. Notify Mr. Weil to come back to-morrow morning, and it will dispose of the case.

Carney's Case.

The indictment against Alderman Thomas Carney was then called on. The charge in his case is that he proposed to receive, as a bribe, from Nathaniel C. Sheldon, $5,000 to use his influence to procure the passage of an ordinance for widening North State street, from Chicago avenue northward. Mr. Leonard Swett appeared for the defence.

Mr. Swett. I will enter a motion to quash the indictment. I have no special reason, for I have never read the indictment.

The Court. You move on general principles?

Mr. Swett. Yes. I have not read it.

The Court. I should overrule it then.

The calling of jurors to try the cause was then proceeded with, but before the panel was completed there became a necessity to bring in more men, which caused some delay. The panel sworn consisted of Solomon Marcuse, P. J. Merritt, Henry H. Emery, Jr., G. Sibley, Jacob Goeble, Andrew J. Wright, W. T. Woodson, W. A. Stanton, Albert Vilas, Hiram Clark, D. W. Keith.

In procuring this jury four persons were peremptorily challenged for the people, and six for the defendant.

Mr. Reed stated his case that the defendant proposed to receive, as a bribe, the sum of $2,000 from Nathaniel C. Sheldon, to procure the widening of North State street. He proposed to prove that certain parties were interested in having that street widened some thirty-one and thirty-nine feet; that Sheldon, at the solicitation of some of the interested parties, went to defendant, who agreed to procure the passage of said ordinance; the interview Carney told him it was a matter of a good deal of difficulty to get through the Council, and there was a good deal of money to be made in it, and told him he thought he could put it through the Council if he would give $5,000, two thousand dollars to him, the balance distributed among other Aldermen. Mr. Sheldon declined the proposition.

The defendant reserved his opening.

C. T. HUTCHINGS.

City Clerk, was called, and made the formal proof that Thomas Carney as Alderman of the Eighteenth Ward during the years, and that defendant is still as Alderman. Defendant had acted as Alderman at a great number of the meetings of the Council.

NATHANIEL K. SHELDON.

the prosecuting witness, was next examined. In answer to inquiries propounded by the State's Attorney, he stated his name, and that he resides on the northwest corner of State and White streets, in the Seventh Ward. He had lived off and on, in Chicago about twenty years, and he had been a resident here for about four years, having a wife, and being engaged in the coal business with A. D. Waldron, and Rhodes & Bradley, selling coal. He is the brother of the Sheldon of the firm of Sheldon, Fiertwood Co. Herew defendant, and had known him since last spring, when he went to see him.

Q. How happened you to go there? A. I had some business with Enos Johnson, who had charge of the Newberry estate, and when I went in in the morning, he asked me if I was acquainted with any Alderman. I told him I was, and that I knew some by sight. He said he was working to get a street opened on the north side of Chicago avenue to Lincoln Park or near there, taking off a jog thirty-nine and a half feet, and he found there was some opposition, and he asked me if I would try and assist him. He drew up a petition which I took round to some Germans in my neighborhood, and I succeeded in getting it signed. He introduced me to Mr. Carney, and we sat there talking, I should think perhaps half an hour, he telling what he had done in the matter.

Q. When you were introduced what did you tell him you wanted? A. Mr. Waldron had told him that I represented, I said Waldron and I wanted, and he introduced me, and said, "Mr. Carney, here is Mr. Sheldon, and he knows Sheldon and means a certain matter."

Q. Who was present? A. Mr. Waldron and Mr. Lawrence. I don't recollect any other of consequence present or not.

Q. State the subject of the conversation? A. He done all the talking himself.

Q. What did he say? A. He said he had been an Alderman a long time, and had done a good deal of work for the North Side, and he never had received anything, and he had done a good deal of hard work.

Q. What has street talked about? A. No about general streets, about getting streets graded and alleys opened, and so on.

Q. Did you talk about the opening of State street, from Chicago avenue north? A. That was the purport of the conversation at the time.

I think there was very few words said except by Carney. The conversation after dinner dropped, and he went out.

Q. Did you see him again? A. I did.

Q. When? A. I saw Jim within one or two days afterward?

Q. Where? A. On Kinzie street.

Q. Did you have any conversation with him at the second interview? A. We did.

Q. State where it was as near as you can? A. At that time he asked me to go and take a drink, and we went into a saloon on Kinzie street, east of Kingsbury. I don't recollect the name of the place of the number. We had some little conversation, and there was a remark that night, and he said he would do all he could.

Q. What was the conversation about? A. Widening this street.

Q. What was the conversation? A. I could not tell particularly, but he was going to do all that he could, like he would for any one. I were going to be interested. I told him my brother had a block and a half, and if it was widened it would be worth a thousand dollars more, and that the Newberry estate was interested, and he said they were rich. I told him as far as my brother was concerned, he was absent from the city, and I know if he was here he would not pay a cent. After that I went to St. Johnson's, and reported the substance of the conversation, that it would take money to get the thing through. I told him the conversation I had had in regard to it, by my brother, and he said he would not give a cent. The next morning I met Carney on the corner of the Sherman House. We went into Schimpman's grocery and took a drink, and he said it would take money to put this thing through. I asked him about the other Aldermen. He said they were all trying to do what they could to defeat him; he mentioned no particular names; that the Germans had got in a petition, and that if he could get some money out of it he thought he could push it through. He said it would take $2,000; that he should have $2,000 and $3,000 to distribute among the other fellows; that he was to have him for what it would cost him to expend in working the thing through.

Q. What did you say to him? A. I told him that Mr. Johnson would not give a cent, and if it could not get through without paying for it, it couldn't get through at all.

Q. What did he say? A. I think he said "Very well," and left. I went north to the office, and left him standing talking with another man.

Witness was then cross-examined by Mr. Swett as to

CROSS-EXAMINATION.

Mr. Swett opened for the defence. He said every citizen in the community was interested in punishing men who bribed and who took bribes, and the door should not be thrown open to men who were malicious and perverted the truth to punish the innocent with the guilty. He charged that Mr. Carney was not guilty of the charge named in the indictment, and that no criminal act could be proved on him. He proposed to prove that Sheldon was lying—that his story was false. If he established that, he asked for an acquittal.

TESTIMONY OF CHARLES PALMER.

George Taylor was sworn, and testified that he had known Carney for about eleven years; had had business with him, and had always heard him well spoken of.

TESTIMONY OF A. D. WALDRON.

A. D. Waldron was sworn, and testified as follows: Am a coal dealer, and live in Kenwood, Hyde Park. Have been acquainted with Sheldon about a year. He (Sheldon) was a coal broker, and came to his place of business quite often. He was not in his employ, but brought orders to him for coal, in which he received a commission. Knew Carney for ten years; knew him intimately for five years. For four years past carried on business with him, and had always heard him well spoken of.

Mr. Swett considered the testimony of the prosecution mainly and fair. He had known Mr. Carney, here is Mr. Sheldon, and he knows Sheldon's character, and he asked me if I was acquainted with any Alderman. I told him I was, and I knew some by sight. He said he was working to get a street opened on the north side of Chicago avenue to Lincoln Park or near there, taking off a jog thirty-nine and a half feet, and he found there was some opposition, and he asked me if I would try and assist him. He drew up a petition which I took round to some Germans in my neighborhood, and I succeeded in getting it signed. He introduced me to Mr. Carney, and we sat there talking, I should think perhaps half an hour, he telling what he had done in the matter.

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WISCONSIN.

A Temperance Bill, Making Liquor-Sellers Responsible, Carried in the Assembly.

A Republican Contestant Fails to Get a Democrat's Seat.

Report of the Joint Committee on Congressional Apportionment.

From Our Special Correspondent.

MADISON, WIS., Feb. 22.

The birthday of the Father of his Country is by law a holiday in Wisconsin, and so there has been no session of the Legislature to-day. The flags on the public buildings and hotels have been flung to the breeze; the cannon boomed a salute at sunrise, and another this afternoon, when half a company of members of the First Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, three months and three years, escorted by the Milwaukee Light Guard and their splendid band, and the Madison Zouaves, with Jack Howe, the *beau ideal* of a Zouave, for file-leader, marched through our streets, preliminary to Gubernatorial and post-Gubernatorial soldierly speeches, and a banquet, with following toasts and bumpers, at the Park Hotel, to-night. Many members of the Legislature have gone home, and little of importance is likely to be done the rest of the week.

LIQUOR-SELLERS RESPONSIBLE.

The matter before the Legislature in which the people have taken most interest is the temperance question, on which an issue has been raised by the introduction, on the third day of the session, of a bill commonly known as No. 7 A, entitled, "To provide against the evils resulting from the sale of intoxicating liquors;" the object of which was to make liquor-sellers responsible for damages resulting from drunkenness. The bill was similar to the Ohio law when introduced. It was referred to a Select Committee, consisting of Messrs. Graham of Rock, Carpenter of Racine, and Cheever of Walworth, who reported it back with cogent arguments for its passage. It was printed, and widely circulated over the State before the Committee reported amendments, and it has excited a great deal of feeling for and against, and petitions, numbering 350 in all, have been presented in regard to it, with the resolutions of public meetings for and against. Its friends were organized in advance, and had petitions circulated before the Legislature met, and they began to pour in at an early day. After the bill was printed, remonstrances, very largely signed, began to appear, coming from all parts of the State, a number of signers, probably equal or exceed the petitions for the bill. Yesterday the bill was amended it considerably, and

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1872.

THE INVESTIGATION EPIDEMIC.

An era of official investigation into frauds and corruptions of all sorts has set in, and almost every city and State in the whole country is a plaintiff in a suit against one or more of its authorities, for malfeasance in office. These suits are not only of a National, State, and municipal character, but they extend to private and public corporations; and banks, railroad companies, churches, great manufacturing interests, and even ancient seats of learning are vigorously using their new brooms and sweeping out abuses. In Congress, the wheels of new legislation are clogged with old investigations. The outrages of Ku-Klux violations, the frauds in Custom Houses, the political violence of State Government usurpers, the contested seats of Congressmen, the sales of arms to foreign Governments, and briberies, corruptions, and political chicanery of all sorts, are the staples of Congressional proceedings. In New York, investigation has become a matter of self-preservation, Tammany stealings, judicial corruptions, railroad robberies, land and canal frauds, bank defalcations, and all sorts of minor knaveries have combined to make a Citizens' Committee absolutely necessary in order to save the city from ruin. Brooklyn, in like manner, has her city officials under investigation, and Jersey City, having caught the infection, demands that the dishonesty of her officials shall be exposed. Philadelphia has a Reform Committee which is trying to find out some clue to where the city funds are gone, and, with this end in view, is vigorously investigating its Aldermen and the Tax Receiver's Office. Baltimore is overhauling the frauds of its Whiskey Ring. New Orleans has just organized a Citizens' Association, which will investigate political irregularities through the Courts, that the State and city credit may be saved before it is too late, and which has already secured the passage of a bill providing for the punishment of bribery. Arkansas is in a political conflagration, owing to the cabals of official scalawags, and the press is calling upon the people to unite in extinguishing it. South Carolina is floundering through all kinds of investigation, and groping its way along trying to find the light. Tennessee has just lost an ex-Congressman, convicted of defrauding the Treasury through the dishonest collection of pension and bounty claims. St. Louis has a Committee engaged in investigating the books and accounts of the various city officers and Boards, which has already discovered that the city has been swindled by contractors. Topeka has a Senatorial bribery case on the tapis, from which it appears that Kansas Senators cost about $20,000 *per capita*. The official acts of the Executive Branch of the Government of the District of Columbia, with reference to the Washington City Canal, are under investigation. Chicago, not to be behind other cities, is investigating also, and, better still, enforcing the penalties for official corruption, thereby setting a good example in the latter regard to other cities. To enumerate the minor investigations, such as of banking, harbor, quarantine, insurance, Post Office, Land Office, Pension Office, and railroad abuses, would fill one edition of THE TRIBUNE.

This widespread prevalence of investigation is one of the most favorable symptoms of a good state of national health, and the rotten condition of things developed by it is now about to be explored, so that very fact that investigations can be had and prosecuted to the extreme limit is to be rejoiced at. Abuses, frauds, and corruptions are the natural outgrowth of the war, as are also the violent crimes. All great wars produce financial, social, and moral confusion, and this confusion lasts longer or shorter, according to the moral vigor of a nation. An intestine war is always more productive of individual depravity than a war with a foreign power, and it takes longer to recover from its effects, because all the foundations of the nation are disturbed by it. But, just as this country has shown its political strength by reorganizing itself and replacing the temporarily scattered fragments into one symmetrical whole again, so it is now showing its moral strength by checking, one after the other, the abuses which have grown out of the war of the rebellion. We are not inclined to join in the lament of so many of our contemporaries over the depravity of the times, nor to discover, as a result of these investigations, that society is hopelessly drifting into barbarism. We are rather inclined to rejoice at the reaction which has set in, and which is one of the surest of indications that the patient will shortly recover from his disease. We only see cause for congratulation that the country has youth, freshness, elasticity, and robustness enough to shake off its moral diseases and regain its wonted vigor of constitution. With these great crimes brought to the surface and exposed to the gaze of all, and with a sentiment, both moral and physical, strong enough to apply the remedies, we see no reason to anticipate danger or demoralization. We should only be wise enough to guard against their recurrence by making the remedies heroic, and applying the caustic so that not even a scar shall remain. Eradicate the frauds and corruptions and abuses by the application of the extreme penalties of the law. Imprison the one Stokes until the last hour allowed by the statutes, and all defrauders will hesitate before they put unlawful hands into the Treasury. Hang the other Stokes, and all murderers will hesitate before they strike the fatal blow which will end their own lives as well as those of their victims. The efficacy of the heroic remedy has been manifested in our own city. It will be a long, long day before another Chicago Alderman will have the hardihood to take a bribe, remembering the fate of Glade and Montgomery.

RAILROAD BRIDGE AT OMAHA.

We called attention, some time ago, to a contract recently made by the city of Omaha and the Union Pacific Railroad Company, by which, in consideration of a donation of certain lands owned by the city, the Railway Company has established its eastern terminus in Omaha, on the west bank of the Missouri River. We cited the law, and the proclamation of the President, under which, until recently at least, it has been considered that the eastern terminus of that railroad was on the east bank of the river. Part of this contract is, that the Railroad Company shall build a bridge over the Missouri River (which it was required to do by its charter), and shall make up all its western-bound passenger and freight trains on the depot grounds in the city of Omaha; "that all passengers and freights coming from the East, on all lines of road seeking a connection with the Union Pacific Railroad, shall be delivered and transferred to the Union Pacific Railroad Company upon said depot grounds." It further provides that the trains, cars, and engines of all such roads seeking a connection with the U. P. R. shall have the right of transit over said bridge to said depot grounds, at "reasonable compensation," to be fixed by the Union Pacific Railroad Company.

We have no interest in this matter, so far as the relative claims of Omaha and Council Bluffs are concerned; but the difference to the public whether the eastern terminus of the Union Pacific Road is on the east or on the west bank of the Missouri River is of considerable importance. The Union Pacific Railroad Company, in the one case, is bound to erect and maintain the bridge, and to transport freight and passengers from the east to the west bank of the river as part of its contract; in the other case, it has the right to erect and maintain the bridge, and to levy additional toll on each passenger and pound of freight that is moved over said bridge. In the one case, it is a railroad receiving and delivering passengers at the end of its road; in the other case, it is landing them at one end of the bridge and demanding additional fare to reach the end of the road. In the one case, the Union Pacific Railroad Company is bound to take up its passengers and freight on the east bank of the road and convey them across the river; in the other case, it is the same road demanding toll for the privilege of crossing the bridge owned by that Company, and which is declared by act of Congress to be a part of the railway of that Company.

What we object to is, that the Union Pacific Railway Company, disregarding the spirit, if not the letter, of the charter by which it has any rights at all, proposes to erect, under the monopoly it possesses, an independent corporation—a bridge company, —and, by virtue of a contract with the Common Council of Omaha, to levy and collect tolls from all passengers and freights crossing the Missouri River. It has lopped off one end of its road, and leased that out to a bridge company, authorized to levy tolls upon all who may wish to get from the east to the west bank of the river.

The answer made by the Omaha papers is, that the eastern terminus of the road was on the western boundary of Iowa, which boundary is, it is now claimed, in the middle of the channel of the Missouri River. Be this as it may,—though the fact is that President Lincoln, when he fixed the eastern terminus of the road, thought he was locating it on the east bank of the river,—the Union Pacific Railroad Company is taking advantage of a mere technicality to levy a tax upon the country which is unjust and extortionate. That Company is a monument of the national bounty. Yet the general policy of its management has been exasperating, aiming to extort the largest possible amount of money for the least possible amount of service, and its continued existence is due to the forbearance rather than the justice of the nation, which has permitted it to disregard its contracts, and become an enormous annual charge on the public Treasury. This last scheme to erect an extraordinary toll-gate on its own road, to squeeze an additional tax from those whose business compels them to use that route, will not, and ought not to, commend it to public favor.

THE LUNATICS OF SCIENCE.

Modern progress has a good deal of retrogression to answer for, and universal education develops a marvellous number of fools. All great benefits and evils have their adverse compensations. We glory in this universal diffusion of information, and equal right of every man and woman to add his or her mite of opinion or fact to the general contribution. But in return for it we submit to be bored by an infinite number of silly-pated people whose follies are the only amusement we have time to laugh at. As there is no tribunal to decide who shall run for office, so there is no court to pronounce who of us are to be deemed sane and which of us are addled. We have lunatics of the lecture-room, lunatics of reform, men who propose to redeem the world by giving free rein to its licentious passions. We have lunatics in politics, in religion, in poetry, and in science. All these must have their hearing through the press, some of them in ponderous volumes. Before us lie two publications of about equal merit,—the first a volume called "The To-morrow of Death; or, the Future Life According to Science," by Louis Figuier, of Paris; the other a stray fly-leaf entitled an "Essay on the Vital Forces," by Corry E. Danford, of San Jose, Cal.

M. Figuier has written several popular picture-books purporting to bring science down to the level of the unscientific. In these he has performed a useful work and done it well. In his present effort he pretends to state as conclusions of science the merest flimsies of his own fancy relative to the future life. The irreverence of the book could only be perpetrated by a Frenchman, while its assumptions bespeak the showman, rather than the seer or the philosopher.

He declares that beyond the atmospheres of all the planets and filling all space is a material gas or ether, which, when decomposed by the spirits, the good rising upward (a term that has no meaning in reference to absolute space in proportion to their virtues, and the evil sinking down under the (material) weight of their vices, thus effecting a separation in ethereal space on the same principles that separate cork and plummet on a fishing-line. The ex-residents of Mars, Jupiter, Mercury, and all other worlds meet and swim or float in this ether, where exemption from any other toil than the simple one of inhaling and exhaling the ether, frees them from all passions and culminates in supreme felicity. Unlike Swedenborg, this writer informs us that the celestial spirits know no relation of sex or marriage, have no labor or sleep, and no amusements or occupations except to roll in a sea of light.

M. Figuier kindly informs us that in this life we are 50 per cent of spirit at the average, while in the next we shall be from 80 to 85 per cent. The sun consists of pure flame, the residence of pure souls. Its radiations of light and heat to the planets are the emanations from these souls, and the sun is compensated in bulk for the loss occasioned by their departure by the constant influx of still purer and more ardent souls.

For pure and unadulterated science, however, we prefer the man of San Jose to him of Paris. Mr. Danford lets us into some facts that are much newer than anything in Figuier. He says:

Electricity looks like a mineral fluid; has a dark glisten like a new fracture in cast iron. It works among primary organizations. Magnetism is a fluid of a dark reddish wine color. It works through the nerves as blood does through the veins. In its weak or sickly condition it is poison, and of a yellow color. In its angular condition (produced by fear, grief, or anger), it is a bitter poison, the nature of envery, and of a brick-dust color.

Again:

Mesmerism is a fluid of a dull gold color, arises from the brain, and runs out from very sharp tongues, particularly from the eyes. It works from mind to mind, and has the nature of phosphorus. It is an often use in a room as a fume around a coffee-pot. It has no re-action, and strong minds—if they know how to give it mobility—can produce a condition of mental paralysis upon the weaker. It is used in religious revivals, and not always unwittingly either; also in political meetings, gambling hells, houses of ill-fame, by coquettes, gallants, and confidence men, and is certainly the most dovelish power upon earth.

Like all scientists of this class, our author is specially full and confident in his information concerning the tender passion. He says:

Love is a vital fluid of a bright pink color; it flows from many primary organs; is no passion with it. Passion is magnetic. The young, old, stark, and malformed love, but have no passion. In its normal condition it mingles readily with magnetism, and gives it mobility. In poison, of a dark, blood-red color, and intercicates the spirit as alcohol does the body. In its sickly tragic produces love-sickness, crime, and often death of both body and spirit. Morbid love is produced by oppression, or forcing a person from one love to another. Love is a passion for two. Woman, from her finer organization, unwittingly collects this, and casts it upon man. His stronger nature modifies it, and it feeds by reflection: *Asmee women never fall in love with each other.*

There is also a state of "magnetic dependence," which is interesting to the scientific class:

Any adult can taste this sweet fluid whose mouth has not been scorched with alcohol, paralyzed with tobacco, or carbonized with pork, and the condition of magnetic dependence may take place between sensitive persons in thirty minutes, and is usually formed love at first sight. How often may you observe a person who has refused the right to embrace or even speak to each other, thereby producing a condition of magnetic starvation and suffering, with all the pains of the cross are no comparison. In such cases, if the parties approximate to the same temperament, there will be times of magnetic repugnance, with its accompanying repulsion. They then may be separated without danger. These times may vary from a few hours to weeks, in different cases, and if kept apart new relations may be formed, such as the moral judgement of those interested may dictate; but if one be dark and the other fair, there will never be a time of repulsion in which they can safely be separated.

The nonsense of Danford and Figuier is, after all, but a slight extension of the charlatanism and romance which have all along hung upon the skirts of science, and claimed kinship with her. How long have many partially scientific men been wont to style every influence electric or magnetic, when it was really an influence of whose nature they were ignorant, and did not like to confess their ignorance. How much have we all heard of "nervous fluids," "vital fluids," "electric currents, etc., where the term was merely used to cover essential ignorance. Until the really scientific class are found willing frankly to admit their ignorance, the unscientific will always be ready to assume their wisdom. The only mode of distinguishing the learned from the lunatics must consist in the modesty and candor of those who know at least the distinction between what can be known and what cannot.

The annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company was held in Philadelphia on the 20th inst. As this great corporation has now become of national importance, and influences railroad interests everywhere, more or less, we present a few facts of general interest taken from the voluminous report of its operations during the past year. The earnings of the main line have been $18,719,-856.55, and the expenses $11,883,433.34, leaving the net earnings for the year $6,896,402.51,—an increase of $1,183,130.03 over 1870. The number of tons of freight moved was 7,100,391, embracing 3,161,441 tons of coal,—an increase of over 23½ per cent over 1870. Since the last annual meeting the road has greatly extended its operations. It has acquired leases of the Pittsburgh & Cleveland Road; the roads of the Jeffersonville, Madison & Indianapolis Company, carrying with it a control of the bridge over the Ohio, at Louisville; the control of the Chartiers Valley Railroad, from Mansfield, on the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railroad, to Washington, Pa.; of the Cincinnati & Muskingum Railroad, which passes through the most fertile portions of Ohio; of the Mansfield, Coldwater & Lake Michigan Railroad, from Mansfield, in Ohio, to Allegan, Mich., with a branch from Tiffin to Toledo; of the Plymouth, Kankakee & Pacific Railroad, and the Vincennes & Cairo, which connects with the International Railroad now being built southwestwardly from Cairo into Texas. It has also aided the construction of the Baltimore & Potomac Railroad, and to protect its investment has become a shareholder in the Southern Security Company, which controls nearly the whole system of Southern railways. It has also purchased the stock of the Wrightsville, York & Gettysburg Company; is running several branch lines to the iron ores and coal fields of the Alleghenies; has built several large granaries upon the Schuylkill; and has organized the American Steamship Company, which has already four steamers building, to run between Philadelphia and Liverpool.

The letter, which we publish elsewhere, from John Schank, late First Assistant Engineer of the Fire Department, is not regarded by the Board of Commissioners as a very candid presentation of the facts. Certain differences, which have been increasing for more than a year, between Fire Marshal Williams and his First Assistant, Mr. Schank, led to mutual charges, and it became necessary that both should be tried, and that at least one should retire from the service. After obtaining all the light they could, the Board accepted the resignation of Mr. Schank, and allowed Mr. Williams to remain. A very general impression exists that they ought to have discharged Mr. Schank outright, as a proper rebuke to insubordination; but, in a spirit of indulgence, and out of consideration for his long service in the department, he was allowed to resign.

His statement that the Board refused to hear his witnesses is founded upon the fact that, after examining a large number of them, it was found that they disproved instead of proved his case, and hence the remainder were dispensed with. Nor did Mr. Schank offer to prove the facts concerning Williams which he now says he could have proved by Officers Johnson and Buckley. The pretence that Mr. Schank was removed because he was a German, is an afterthought, not wholly of Mr. Schank's invention. The remainder of the charges against Williams are those which were investigated by the Board and found by them to be untrue. Doubtless, in the course of seventeen years' service, Mr. Schank has done a good deal of commendable work. But that does not atone for the acts for which he was discharged.

The full text of Earl Granville's note to Mr. Schenck was received yesterday, and the temperate and conciliatory tone of it put an end to all apprehensions of trouble between the two nations. The claims of the United States seem to have been made the pretext for a sudden attack upon the English Ministry by the Opposition; the Liberals seem to have silenced the noise of the Tories by making even greater noise, and then, the object of the whole having failed, the excitement has died away. The United States Government propose to reply, that the claim for consequential damages was not a new thing in the discussion of this matter, and that the British Government cannot justly plead a surprise. Therefore, the case as presented will be permitted to stand, and the whole question left to the Arbitrators. The claim for consequential damages, though talked about considerably, from time to time, in this country, had failed to attract any serious attention; and its formal presentation in the American case was as much a surprise to the American people as it was to the English. It is fortunate that the moderation and good sense which have marked the negotiations on this subject of late years, are still strong enough to avert any serious disagreement pending the determination of the whole controversy by the Arbitrators.

Senator Wilson has introduced a much-needed and judicious bill to prevent the killing of buffalo upon the public lands for "mere sport," without any intention to make any use of meat or hide. We have counted sixty carcasses within a small distance of each other in one locality, killed in this manner, and rotting in the sun. As a mere act of humanity to the Indians, whom the Government and the settlers must feed as fast as the buffalo are killed off, the further shooting of buffalo by mere "sportsmen" should be stopped. Mr. Wilson's bill proposes to render every person who shall kill a bison or buffalo, anywhere upon the public lands, liable to a fine of one hundred dollars for each animal killed, one-half of which shall go to the informer, and the other half to the Government.

The latest born in the Happy Family of political parties is the National Prohibition Party. The President of its Convention, held at Columbus, Ohio, on Feb. 22, said, in his inaugural address, that they "were justified in forming a new party, because both the Republican and Democratic parties ignored the question of Temperance." Unless this was a deliberate misstatement, it showed a woful ignorance. The Temperance law in Ohio, the Temperance law in Illinois, the Temperance bill now pending in Wisconsin, are all instances of late action on this subject by political parties. The laws of every State in the Union show action on this subject by Republicans and Democrats in the past. If the first-chosen of the National Prohibitionists intended to urge the necessity of a new party because both of the existing ones ignored Temperance in their National platforms and Total Abstinence in their State platforms, he complains of wise and just action. Temperance, like many other very good things, is not, and ought not to be, a question of national politics, simply for its own sake. If there is any thoroughly-ascertained fact in the science of government, it is that Prohibition is a mockery. Very wisely, clear-headed men dropped it long since. If it were an admirable thing in itself, its place is not in politics. It is a false idea of a great party to imagine that, in addition to upholding a particular scheme of government, it is bound to adopt the whims and isms of all the supporters of its work in its proper sphere. The platform of this sickly organization, which had better have been still-born than eke out a wretched existence until summarily strangled next November, is a curious tissue of wild statements and illogical inferences. What time came to nominate Presidential candidates, the well-known cold-water man, B. F. Butler, was presented prominently. A Committee, to which the whole matter was referred, decided that the Convention wished to nominate Vice-President James Black, of Pennsylvania, and for Vice-President John Russell, of Michigan. Whether these gentlemen intend to keep up the farce of remaining for office until the election closes, we do not know. We were perhaps wrong in arguing that there was no necessity for the new party. There is a necessity that, in every election, one party should be beaten. There is no organization better calculated to fill the bill in this respect than the National Prohibition Party.

From the announced intention of the Pope to call another Œcumenical Council, it would seem that the Fewars above have not been fully convinced of the Papal Infallibility by the Council of 1870, and need to be reassured. Certainly, if the blessing of the Pope is sure to be of avail, as anything infallibly done ought to be, the benefits conferred by it come in peculiar ways. The Emperor of Austria was blessed and married happily on to Sadowa; the Queen of Spain received the Golden Rose, and fled from her miseries over the Pyrenees; Maximilian was blessed, and went across the ocean to Mexico and death. On the other hand, Victor Emanuel has been armed with great vigor and persistency, yet to-day he is King of United Italy, and has made his daughter Queen of Portugal and his son King of Spain. Evidently, infallibility needs to be re-affirmed.

The French Assembly has agreed, so say the despatches, to tax the raw material of all manufactures except textile fabrics. A bill to that effect will be introduced forthwith. The resignation of M. Thiers for an hour seems to have scared the Assembly into an act against its better judgment. The aim of the measure is not so much revenue as the fostering of manufactures. This is evident, because the textile fabrics in which France is unexcelled in her specialties escape. They are regarded as strong enough. It is only the weak ones which are to be protected by taxing them out of existence. Take the case of a small manufacturer of tin-ware who keeps his capital of $10,000 in such brisk circulation that he sells, during the year, $50,000 worth of manufactured articles, yielding him a net profit of $1,000, or 10 per cent on the capital invested. Let us suppose that, of this $50,000, three-fifths has been expended in wages, repairs of machinery, interest, etc., and only $20,000 for the raw material imported from the mines of Cornwall. Now, if the Assembly lays a tax of 5 per cent on tin in its crude state, the tax will amount to $1,000 on his sales, but will, nevertheless, cut up his entire profit therefrom and force him to close his workshop. The fallacy of such a system is apparent. It is a significant fact that the announcement of its coming is coupled with the announcement of a bill to increase the power of the Government over the press. If France is to remain content under such medieval legislation, it is certainly necessary that the press should be muzzled in advance.

The advantage of an outward gloss of gentility has never been better exemplified than in the case of Oakey Hall. Tweed, coarse and uncouth, was long since indicted and despised. Sweeny, an uneasy, ill-bred man, followed him. Connolly, higher than they in the social scale, and yet below Hall, has suffered much and is to suffer more. The man who let them all into the Treasury, who appointed them to their places and signed their vouchers, has, as we have said, a gloss of gentility. He has polished the thin varnish by dabbling in learning. He cracks little jokes and makes little speeches, and lugs into them rather ponderous classical quotations. The gentleman in him has hitherto saved him. After his confederates had fallen, fallen from their high estate, he was an honored guest at the Franklin celebration, and did the pathetic about "an old public servant" under the stony stare of the statue of Honesty personified. When he was finally indicted, he chose his own Judge, packs a court-room in order that he may win plaudits by bullying the Attorney General, and tries to fix the time of his own trial. It is to be hoped that the event of that trial may rouse this dapper, smiling, refined person from his self-sufficiency, and show him that a thin coating of gentlemanliness cannot hide the real man beneath.

The average American looks with a vast contempt on the wretched European who boasts of his long line of distinguished ancestors. It is only when we can utilize ours, by turning their memory into cash, that we ever allow ourselves to refer to them. A good instance of this curious blending of sentiment and shrewdness may be found in a paragraph clipped to-day from one of the remote descendants of Sergeant John Champe. After Arnold had made good his escape, and Andre was lying under sentence of death, Sergeant Champe was detailed to enter the British army, and try to carry off the traitor, in order that he, and not his victim, might suffer for his crimes. The plot failed. Andre was hung. Champe redeserted, and was given an honorable discharge from the American army, lest he should be captured by the British, and hung as a spy. Nearly a hundred years later, a remote descendant, whose sole claim to distinction is that he deigned to be born of a mother who had flowing in her veins a little of the Champe blood, asks Congress to grant him some land as a reward of merit. We trust that the impertinent request will be promptly denied, and the remote descendant taught that his ancestor's bravery does not authorize his begging.

It now appears that that the supposed Queen's speech, which was printed in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, an extract of which was telegraphed to this country by the English agent, who gravely sent word the next day that the *Gazette* had been hoaxed, was written in the office of that paper as a burlesque, and was in reality a severe ironical attack upon the Government. To guard against such contingencies in the future, would it not be well to impose a condition upon English newsagents that they shall be able to know a joke when they see it, and not disturb two continents by taking persiflage for reality. If not, we are liable at any time to have Gladstone's next conundrum or Disraeli's little joke sent to us as a declaration of war,—a practice which, if followed for any considerable length of time, will result in embarrassing us to such an extent that every time the British Lion opens his mouth we shall be in doubt whether he is wrathfully roaring or only pleasantly singing.

St. Petersburg boasts of an International Translation Company, which is busily engaged in issuing standard and cheap editions of half-a-dozen English authors. The works of Sir Walter Scott, Dickens, Thackeray, Bulwer Lytton, Miss Yonge, and Mayne Reed are the favorites, although Wilkie Collins, Anthony Trollope, and Charles Reade have many admirers. The Russian translations appear in some cases under curious names. Bleak House is A Cold Lodging; Only a Clod has become Nothing but Turf; Peveril of the Peak is metamorphosed into The Puritans; The Initials has retained its name, and is in Russian A B C; while Rob Roy has evidently received the translator by the similarity of "Roy" and "Roi," and is masqueranding as Bob the King.

In consequence of the almost universal appeal by relatives for the discharge of such minors as may enlist in the regular army, Secretary Belknap has recommended to Congress that the law regarding enlistments be amended, and that no recruit be hereafter permitted to enter the service who, by his own oath, is not over 21 years of age.

The Legislature of North Carolina has passed a resolution that that State must have a port of export within her own borders, thereby to avoid a commercial "vassalage" to other States, and therefore they ask Congress to remove obstructions placed in Cape Fear River prior to the Revolutionary War.

PERSONAL.

A lady of New Albany, Ind., while traveling in Germany, was bethrothed to a German Baron, and a grand wedding is in prospect at the home of the lady on Wednesday next.

—The workmen employed in the excavation on the Detroit River tunnel throw off their coats and vests and enjoy a fine atmosphere.

—The Mormon sisters in Ephraim, Utah, put aside all eggs laid by their chickens on Sundays, toward the subscription to assist the poor to emigrate from the nations the coming year. The brothers gave $2,000 in cash and ten head of cattle.

—The public vaccinators of Hartford, Conn., have operated upon 1,800 children and 300 adults, at a cost to the town of $1,186.

—At Lawrence, on Sunday, "Brother" Hammond had an audience of 1,200 children, ten clergymen being in attendance. Tom Diehl, a recent notable convert, was for many years the oldest and bravest fireman in Leavenworth.

—Mrs. Mary Van Ostrand, the oldest native of Troy, N. Y., died on sunday, aged 94. Jonas C. Heartt is next on the list in point of age.

—All Kentucky is crazy over Mollie Merion, the belle of the Russian ball at Louisville, who, when asked to dance by the Grand Duke, refused to break her engagement with another gentleman.

—A schoolboy at Woodstock, Vt., in his 16th year, stands 6 feet 5 inches in his stockings.

—Captain A. B. Sabin, of Dempster, N. H., has for 50 years sung in the choir of the First Congregational Church.

—The gift of Alexis to Lotta, at New Orleans, was a bracelet, set in with a turquoise and two large pearls, here and there inlaid with small diamonds, the edges exquisitely enamelled in black.

—Dr. John M. Covert, who died in Brooklyn on Sunday, was a native of St. Augustine, Fla., and graduated at Charleston College in 1833. On becoming a physician, he volunteered in the yellow fever hospitals at Portsmouth, Va., and battled the scourge until its extinction, as he also did at Galveston in 1867. He served on the staff of General Lee for some time, and, at the close of the war, located in Brooklyn. He was a poet and author of no insignificant ability.

—The Salt Lake City *News* gives the following reminiscence:

Governor A. Cumming, a very excellent gentleman, though somewhat rough in his language, had written his message to the Legislative Assembly of this Territory, and, having his office contiguous to that of Dr. Forney, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, handed the message to the latter to read. The Doctor was discomposed to be critical. He suggested that the Governor pause a little and amplify it there and suggested its alteration in several points. The Governor, irritated at the liberties Forney was taking with his production, at last blurted out—"D—n you, sir, I handed this message to you out of compliment, and not to criticise."

—There is a colored man living in Newberry, South Carolina, who has not slept for three months. He labors under some nervous disorder. No pain is experienced by the unfortunate fellow. The physicians are treating this novel phenomenon. The local paper says: "It seems to us that inability to sleep must have intervened by this time, and yet his mind is clear, and he labors every day."

—The Syracuse *Standard* announces the death of Dr. John Foot Trowbridge, aged 81 years. His father was a Quaker, and was one of the guards placed over Major Andre after his capture.

—In honor of his 70th birthday, the Rev. Dr. Bacon was, on Monday, tendered a reception at New Haven, at which the Doctor said: "From the beginning of my official ministry I spoke without reserve, from the pulpit and elsewhere against slavery as a wrong and curse threatening disaster and ruin to the nation."

—The Detroit *Free Press* records the deeds of a generous lady.

Yesterday morning a lady from the East, who crossed from the Great Western depot to the Detroit & Milwaukee Road to go West, dropped her pocket-book in the depot at Windsor, and made colony enough to so are every one within a block. A ragged little boy, with his hair sticking up through an old hat, and his toes peeping out of his boots, came further with the pocket book, which he had found. It contained, as the lady informed the railroad officials, $7 000 in bonds, $7,000 in notes, and $1,000 in green backs, making its cash value to her as good as $15,000. She was, of course, well pleased with the boy's action and asked his name. While it was being given out of the family, and finally opened the pocket book to reward him. She handed all the papers, found two ten-cent shinplasters, and, handing them to the lad, told him to always remember that a good act on was sure to bring a good reward. The boy licked off his old hat, thanked her, and ran off to buy ten cents of wood and a barrel of flour, and other stuff to last his widow-d mother until spring. He's going to look for pocket books all the rest of the winter, and when he finds another, he's going to hand it right over—probably.

—Baron Adolphus Rothschild has founded at Nice a refuge for one hundred children.

—Mr. Damm, of New Orleans, inexcusably lost his will just before he died, and his heirs are now using his name in an emphatic manner.

—At a Washington masquerade, last week, Miss Austine Sneed ("Miss Grundy," of the New York *World*) appeared as the Genius of Red Tape. Her dress consisted of a scarf overdress, and skirt of red, white, and blue, festooned with official red tape, knotted at intervals with huge department seals of red wax.

—A Boston publisher intends presenting a magnificent Dore Bible to the city clergyman who receives the most votes from customers at his book store. The last reports (with four days to hear from) were Edward Everett Hale, 134; Phillips Brooks, 96; John Dewitt, 85; W. H. H. Murray, 65. Mr. Brooks is known to fame as the man who was given two flour-barrels full of slippers by his female parishioners.

—Mr. A. B. Mullett, Supervising Architect of the Treasury, his wife, and two of their children, are ill of scarlet fever. They all have the mild type of the disease.

—Eli Perkins says that Albany was named after the Albany *Evening Journal*. "Mr. Weed," he says, "started the *Journal* there a great many years before a house was built, and people came and settled near by, so as to be where they could read the newspaper."

—The Nashville *Banner* says: "It is mentioned as a significant fact that the young lady most admired by the Grand Duke at the recent ball in Memphis wore a ten-dollar dress."

—A bill for the relief of Benjamin Vanniman, of Green County, Ohio, was presented and passed in Congress on the 10th. The claimant in September, 1864, placed two 10-40 bonds of $500 each in a pair of old pantaloons and locked them up in an unused closet for safety. A fortnight afterward he went to get the bonds, but found only small fragments and a nest or two of healthy young rats in warm and costly nests.

—The explosion of the Little Miami powder-mill seems to have a sad finale. In addition to the five men killed, a Mr. Gates was so overcome by excitement that he died in a few hours. Mrs. Linkhart, whose husband and son were at the mills, took her bed from fright, and died in a few days. A Mrs. Ely, on hearing of the explosion went into nervous spasms, and died on Saturday at 11 a. m. This makes in reality eight victims.

—The King of Siam seems to have profited by the visit of Secretary Seward. He is adopting civilized customs to the extent of coats, collars, neckties, shoes, and stockings, and is anxious that his people may become educated. Several of the youth of the higher classes are in Singapore, in school, and some have been sent to Europe. He has his hair cut after European fashion, and, it is said, will not allow his attendants to use betel. He is intending to visit Calcutta soon, and great preparations are making for his journey.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Letter from John Schank, Late First Assistant Engineer.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

SIR: I think it a duty I owe my friends to make a public statement of the facts as they transpired at the trials of Williams and myself. When I was on trial, Mr. Williams was allowed all the liberty and all the witnesses he wanted in his defence; while the time when I was tried I was not allowed to do by his tools, Welch, Rice, Bullwinkle, Benner, etc. When I commenced my defence, a sudden change came over the Board, and President Talcott showed undue anxiety for me to quit bringing forward the best men in the Department to disprove the lies that were told about me.

When Mr. Williams was on trial, the President again showed his anxiety. I was asked how many witnesses I proposed to have sworn, and I handed in a list of thirty citizens and firemen. Immediately the Board endeavored to get me to ten, and, before I had half of my witnesses sworn. I was told the Board would hear no further testimony. They were frightened because they knew I had Officer Johnson and Officer Buckley to prove that Williams and his witness, Jim Rice, were drunk when arrested and locked up in the Armory for being drunk and disorderly together.

That my case was prejudged, every unprejudiced man must allow; that the things proved up days before Williams brought any charges against me, and the fact had gone forth that I would be compelled to resign; that I had been to Germany, and Williams didn't want any more d—d Dutch in the Department.

I examined citizens to prove that Williams had been time and again reported by a number of the best Captains in the Department for being drunk at fires; that the fire service is now, totally unfit to be at the head of the Department; and that he does not now, nor never will, command the confidence of the men placed under his command. I was prepared and able to prove that Williams, at the great fire on Sunday night, went to citizens and firemen, and asked them for the purpose of procuring a glass of liquor; that always, after a fire, he proceeded immediately to a whiskey-shop, and, together with his hangers on, toadies, and lick-spittles.

I wish here to make a few remarks about the Drake fire: As the investigation before the Coroner, both Williams and Benner were sworn, and they, then and there, stated that the fire was well managed, and that no person could have done better than I did at that fire. When regard to the Heath & Milligan fire, I was publicly complimented by the Board, and, also by that veteran fireman, Jim Rice, for the successful manner in which I handled it.

I stand ready to prove that had Williams taken my advice on the night the Sanders block burned, it would have been confined to the West Side. I advised him to take the engines before the fire; but he, being drunk, could not. Had he done this, and thus drove it over on the South Side, when he became hopelessly demoralized, and went and laid down in some out-of-the-way place, it would thus left for Chicago to bear the disgrace of producing the first Chief that ever deserted his post at a fire. While he was sleeping off his drunk, I was battling against the fire, as plenty of citizens know; and how successfully, with the limited means allowed us, Chicago can testify. He did not show himself on the South except with a rig and that belonging to the Department, to help remove his own goods from his burning house. That he hovered about North on that day is doubtful, unless it was in the afternoon on Monday, when he took a ride over to view the ruins on the West Side, where the fire was already checked? Was it for the purpose of getting $50 from Ryerson & Co. to save their lumber-yard, at the expense of the rest of the city?

Why was it that those companies that left the fire on Monday morning, and went home, were not brought before the Board? I reported them to the Chief Marshal.

By what reason is Mr. Chadwick allowed a seat in the Board of Fire Commissioners, when his resignation is on file, and has been so for weeks before the great conflagration, the everlasting monument of R. A. Williams?

How is it that a deal of unnecessary work is done at Hanus' shop? Is it because the buggies of the powers that be are painted and repaired free of cost?

The above enumerated sufficient facts to show my friends how I have been outraged by the Board of Commissioners, no one can deny; and that they are committing a great wrong upon the public by keeping Williams in his present position, who can gainsay?

I have been a member of the Chicago Fire Department for the last seventeen years; was First Assistant Marshal under the late U. F. Harris; and, at this late day, to be robbed of my good name by a lot of ignorant, treacherous and dishonest men, is an outrage, hard for me to bear.

To those of my fellow-citizens who have stood by me in this matter, I return my most sincere thanks, and will ever feel grateful to them.

In conclusion, I assure them that I can prove each and every word I have written in this communication.

JOHN SCHANK.

Piatt County, Illinois.

LOVINGTON, Feb. 13.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

SIR: Piatt County, Ill., is a county but little known in the State as a farming country; yet we flatter ourselves with the idea that we have the best county in the Garden State of the Union. Wheat and corn are the staple products, while oats, flax, rye, and all other crops are largely cultivated. Clover grows very rapidly, which makes our county excellent for stock-growing. Water for stock can be had in abundance by simply sinking a shaft from 30 to 50 feet, which is no instance yet has failed to form an everlasting artesian well, the cost being 81 per foot.

Railroad facilities we have none. We have five routes traversing our county.

The principal towns are Monticello, Bement, Milmine, and Cerro Gordo, all thriving, prosperous towns, which have large churches, schoolhouses, halls, &c.

The lay of the land is beautiful to behold—fresh water freely; while we have an excellent sandstone soil, which contains dampness to sustain our crops in time of drouth. The land is low in prices, ranging from $25 to $75 for improved land, while some prairie can be had from $10 to $25.

NEW YORK.

Mayor Hall—The Reported Compromise With the Ring Thieves.

Reformers Getting Discouraged—The Legislature Giving Them the Cold Shoulder.

Buffalo Bill—The Sale of Arms to France.

Savings Banks Speculations—English Opera—The Southern Pacific Railway.

From Our Special Correspondence.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.

MAYOR HALL.

To-day is the day fixed for the commencement of the trial of May

STATE LEGISLATURES.

Yesterday's Proceedings in the Illinois General Assembly.

Final Passage of the Railroad Incorporation Bill.

Long Debate on the Penitentiary Creditors' Bill in the House.

Passage of the Cook County Re-Assessment Bill in the Senate.

Analysis of the House Bill to Provide for State Revenues.

Text of the Senatorial Apportionment Bill and Other Important Enactments.

Business in the Senate in a Creditably Forward State.

ILLINOIS.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 23.—Gronenbaum's Credit Foncier bill came up in the Senate, and met with unexpected opposition of so serious a nature as to make its passage very questionable. Mr. Reddick was unalterably opposed to it. Mr. Strevell was amazed by its provisions, and the feeling against granting privileges to moneyed corporations showed itself in great strength. The bill was sent to the Judiciary Committee, whence it may return with a favorable report, but of its success, there is merely the barest possibility.

THE RAILROAD INCORPORATION BILL.

The Senate concurred in the House amendments to the Railroad Incorporation bill, and that measure lacks only the signature of the Governor.

CHICAGO BILLS.

The Senate also passed the bill for the re-assessment of Cook County, and read the Mayor's bill the first time.

QUICK WORK.

The Senate has worked so rapidly this week that its table is about cleared, and in a day or two more it will be reduced to waiting for what the House may send it.

THE BURNT RECORD BILL.

which perhaps involves material interests to a greater extent than any bill before the General Assembly, unless it be the Revenue, was to day ordered to a third reading. This bill has been considered neither in Committee of the Whole nor in the House. From time to time the Committee on Burnt Records has reported amendments, some were adopted with reading and some without, but nearly every one was ignorant of the effect of all. This bill still retains objectionable features, by which men can, without their knowledge, be compelled to testify, and also illegal sections by which County Commissioners are created judicial officers, and are empowered to decide what shall constitute a perfect title.

In the afternoon, owing to the earnest representations of persons who desired to offer amendments, the Burnt Records bill was reconsidered, and the bill was made the special order for Wednesday. So far as this bill is concerned, representatives from the State at large are inclined to let Cook County members alone.

PENITENTIARY CREDITORS' BILL.

The bill to pay the debts of Penitentiary creditors was taken up and discussed in Committee of the Whole. From the position assumed by prominent democrats, it is pretty well found that it will not pass as an emergency bill. There are too many who claim that while there are equitable debts yet there are no constitutional warrants for their payment. There is no difficulty about passing it without the emergency.

SENATE RECESS.

The Senate this evening adjourned till Monday evening, being about two months ahead of the House, if one should itself take time. But as the House bills which it will pass next week. There are more Senate bills left, but most of them will be tabled, and only a few passed. These will be selected and sent to the House, which has enough business on its hands.

REVENUE BILL.

The House has now, by ordering its Revenue bill to a third reading, finally readjusted its address to the system of collections. Under this property, thereon provided for. It is declared that persons in listing personal property, chattels, moneys, and credits, may deduct the amount of the debts they owe. That is if a man owns 80 head of horses, and owes $500, he is taxed on $500. If he owns $500 worth of land and owes $500 he is taxed on $500. If he owns $400 worth of furniture and $600 worth of land and owes $500 he is taxed on $600. The House has decided to raise the revenue of the State by levying a tax, by valuation. It is therefore do it precisely in the manner prescribed by the authorities. That instrument says that in case taxation is by valuation, every person shall pay a tax in proportion to the value of his property. If "value" means gross value, then deductions are evidently unconstitutional. If it means net value, then it is unconstitutional to allow a portion of the property of one person, and another on the net value of his personality. Value cannot mean net value in one case, and gross in another.

If A owns $1,000 worth of land, and owes $500, and B $1,000 of personal property, and also owes $500, the gross and the net value of their possessions are the same. Yet by the House bill the tax of the former would be twice that of the latter. Would they pay taxes in proportion to the value of their property? It is said that to allow deductions from personal property is a step in the right direction. But since it is an unconstitutional step in the right direction, of what avail is it? It would seek redress in the Supreme Court, and would find it there.

Hereafter, if this bill passes, the State assessment will be the one on which the taxes of the city of Chicago must be levied. The Constitution requires those taxes to be "uniform in respect to persons and property" and also that "all the taxable property in the State shall be assessed for the payment of its debts, such taxes to be "uniform," etc. But but by this proposition, these municipal taxes will be levied almost entirely on the land. The same condition of affairs will result in the State at large. The assessment in Illinois, for 1871, was as follows: Lands, $237,200,251; town and city lots, $128,284,457; realty of railroads, $15,000,494; on total of realty, $384,578,209; personal property, $141,215,241; personalty of railroads, consisting of rolling stock, etc., $7,455,548, or total of personal property, $148,670,789, or grand total of $505,676,311. The rate of taxation was nine mills. It is estimated by the Auditor that by this system of deductions the assessment would disappear entirely and the assessment of personal property would net exceed $30,000,000. The assessment would then be nearly as follows: $81,669, seven-eighths of which would be on land. The rate of tax required to produce the revenue of the State, would rise to 30 or 40 mills. It is assumed that property will in the future, as in the past, be assessed at one-fifth of its real value. It is true that the Revenue bill says it shall be assessed at its full value, but that has been the law since 1845. There are no further provisions in this same bill to ensure a cash valuation. No member of the House who has been an assessor believes it can be secured. Experience in other States confirms this, and here, too, there is the additional impetus of the desire to avoid the Railroad Aid law.

Yet all the Cook County members voted for this section, but they did it because they or Chicago men owe more than those in the other parts of the State, have heavier stocks of goods, more moneys and credits, and more lands, and will be enabled to make such large deductions that Cook County will pay a smaller proportionate share of the State taxes.

The following table will give a better idea of the case. The figures are from the assessment of 1871:

	Illinois.	Cook County.
Lands	$237,200,251	$ 9,333,654
Town lots	128,284,457	97,400,000
Horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, and mules	46,850,911	980,535
Wagons, clocks, and pianos	7,312,057	657,400
Goods and merchandise	12,262,874	7,297,915
Manufactured articles	3,000,000	2,000,000
Moneys and credits	14,751,825	990,083
Bonds and stocks	1,789,793	341,976
Stock of banks	4,267,340	2,763,402
Unenumerated property	20,163,899	6,147,733
Total	$505,676,311	$130,912,698

What the Cook County members hope to do is to wipe out pretty much the assessment in their county, of goods and merchandise, moneys and credits, unenumerated property, and manufactured articles, of which Cook County has exactly four-ninths, one fourteenth, one-third, and one-fourth, of the entire quantity in the State; the result being that a greater rate of taxation will come on town lots, of which that municipality has over one-half. It is better to keep in the tax on item of which Cook County has but one-tenth, than to throw the taxes on an item of which it has one-half.

It is forgotten, also, that while the amount of the above items listed in Cook County is only a little over fifteen millions, there was listed for taxation, outside of Cook County, the stock to the amount of forty-six millions, which will nearly all disappear under this system of deductions. It is better for Cook County to have the taxes since bu rns forty-sixth part of it is within its bounds; of the one hundred and thirteen millions of personal property listed in the State Cook County had less than fourteen millions or about one-tenth. It is better to stick to that, than put the heavier tax on town lots. At the very lowest estimate Cook County would, by her deductions, pay 6 per cent more taxes to the State than she now does.

It is perfectly proper to protect merchants from heavy taxation, but the foregoing figures seem to show that they have protected themselves pretty effectually under a Revenue law which allowed them no deductions. It is unfortunate that the House alone should have committed itself to such a system, which will cause the Senate to reject the bill, and would compel the Governor to veto it, before it ever to reach him.

THE CREDIT FONCIER BILL.

House bill 306, to authorize the formation of corporations for the investment of money on real estate security, (Gronenbaum's Bill), was read a second time.

Mr. MCNULTA moved to strike out twenty-five years as the duration of such corporations, and insert ninety-nine years.

Mr. HAMPTON said that, as the bill contained extraordinary powers, it was well to limit the term of duration.

Mr. REDDICK said that he intended to vote against the bill from beginning to end.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. LANGLEY moved to amend by striking out all after the enacting clause, which he amended by inserting the exact language of Indiana and another on the net value of his personality. Value cannot mean net value in one case, and gross in another.

If A owns $1,000 worth of land, and owes $500, and B $1,000 of personal property, and also owes $500, the gross and the net value of their possessions are the same. Yet by the House bill the tax of the former would be twice that of the latter. Would they pay taxes in proportion to the value of their property? It is said that to allow deductions from personal property is a step in the right direction. But since it is an unconstitutional step in the right direction, of what avail is it? It would seek redress in the Supreme Court, and would find it there.

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Mr. STREVELL said that the bill was a most extraordinary one, the like of which he never saw. There was but one consideration to recommend it, and that was assistance to Chicago in its fallen and stricken condition, and but for the objectionable features, he might, on that account, strain a point and vote for the bill. He proceeded to discuss the most objectionable features of the bill.

Mr. FULLER suggested that the bill might be passed to a third reading, and then be made a special order.

Mr. STREVELL, continuing, said that no such bill as the one under consideration ever passed the Legislature, even in the halcyon days of special legislation.

Mr. MCNULTA said there was a jealousy among the people regarding the formation of moneyed corporations. The bill was not extraordinary. There was nothing in the bill that any one need be afraid of. He discussed the rate of interest in old countries as compared with this country. While a farmer in Illinois is compelled to pay about 15 per cent, with a mortgage on his farm, securing debt beyond the possibility of escape, a man in Europe could obtain money for 3 per cent. And remember that that. The bill would not legislate the rate of interest to 6 or 7 per cent. He did not see any objection to the issue, by this corporation, of bonds. He wished the bill postponed until Tuesday at 3 p. m.

Mr. LANGLEY said the time to dispose of the bill was at the present time.

Mr. HARLAN raised a point of order that, under a motion to postpone, the merits of the bill could not be discussed.

Mr. CRAWFORD moved that the bill be recommitted to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DORE opposed the motion to re-commit. Bills were sometimes allowed to slumber in that Committee.

Mr. MCNULTA withdrew his motion to postpone, and the bill was re-committed, as moved by Mr. Crawford.

THE FEDERAL RAILROAD INCORPORATION BILL was taken up and discussed in Committee of the Whole. From the position assumed by prominent democrats, it is pretty well found that it will not pass as an emergency bill. There are too many who claim that while there are equitable debts yet there are no constitutional warrants for their payment. There is no difficulty about passing it without the emergency.

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THE CITY IN BRIEF.

Free Dispensary.

A well-conducted dispensary is one of the most useful and deserving of the charities of any city, and, being out of the reach of corrupt influences, does a vast amount of good among the poor classes. These remarks will apply to the dispensary recently opened in the Foundling Home, corner of Sangamon and Randolph streets, open daily from 2 to 4 p. m. Eight experienced physicians and surgeons are in attendance. That the work may be the more thoroughly and successfully carried on, special departments have been formed viz.: for eye and ear surgery, diseases of women, diseases of children, skin diseases, and general medicine and surgery. A large number of sick have already availed themselves of its benefits, and if better known would undoubtedly be a great means of usefulness to the poor of this city.

Personal Paragraphs.

The employees of the Board of Public Works presented General John McArthur with an elegant silver service, a few days ago.

—P. Menge inquires for John George Saltsh, and Annie, his wife. The former is a cabinet-maker. He was born in Altenburg. Address, P. Menge, Hillsboro, Washington County, Texas.

—Mrs. James Gillan, No. 16 High Calton, Edinburg, Scotland, inquires for her brother, Peter McMillan, formerly of 504 Union street. Why does he not write and allay her anxiety?

—The Fire Commissioners yesterday appointed Charles Petrii and William Mashen, respectively Second and Third Assistant Fire Marshals. The officers of the Department are now, E. A. Williams, Chief, and Mat Benner, Charles Petrii, and William Mashen, Assistants.

—Mary Carroll, of Spring Garden Street, North Strand, Dublin, inquires for her daughter, Kate Carroll, who was living, in August last, with Mrs. J. Jacobs, No. 276 East Madison street. Right-hearted lady or her friends will relieve a widow of great distress by giving any information concerning her.

—John Forney, who emigrated to this country in June, 1869, from Dublin, leaving a wife and child, and wrote to his wife from No. 14 Butternfield street, is requested to write at once to his wife, or to Phillip Craven, Exhibition Palace, Dublin. His brothers, Denis and Christopher Forney, are also called upon for information of him.

—An Associated Press despatch from Milwaukee, last evening, contains the following allegal intelligence: "Mr. Thomas Corwin, a well-known musical manager, has arrangements nearly completed for a mammoth musical jubilee, to be held in Chicago in June next. The stock for the enterprise is already partially taken. Mr. J. R. Thomas and Carl Rosa will be applied to as conductors."

—Miss Isobel Hammond, teacher of music and French at San Jose, California, inquires for her brother, Robert Hammond, who has not been heard of since the fire. He is a glider, and was last Nobember framing houses, No. 150 State street. She also asks for information concerning her brother-in-law, Henry Rehwoldt, architect. Any person who can relieve the young lady's anxiety are requested to communicate with her, addressing to Box 386, Post Office, San Jose.

—Mr. John B. Drake, of the Tremont House, received a despatch yesterday stating that the Japanese Ambassadorial party were leaving the Pacific coast east ward, and would be in Chicago on Sunday afternoon. Mr. Drake received a despatch to the same effect from his father, Noah Drake. None of the juvenile Japs at the Tremont House will go to Omaha to meet their father as they intended. They will simply go a few miles out on the Pacific Railroad to meet the train as it approaches the city.

—Mr. Twining, the celebrated English architect, still appears to labor under the mistaken impression that the city was burned up entirely. He visited the Streets. He was met by the Mayor a rough block plan for rebuilding the city on the radiating plan. The drawing looks like the interior of the Union Park Congregational Church, a dilapidated spider's web. Fortunately for the tax-payers, our paved streets in the burnt district remain, to all intents and purposes intact.

Meteorological.

Meteorological observations, as recorded by J. C. Langguth, opticians, 22 Randolph street, (Observer to the Smithsonian Institute). The small letters are the initials for gentle; high; veering; rain; snow; moist atmosphere; fog.

CHICAGO, Feb. 23.

Time.	Ther.	Bar.	Wind.	Rain.
Night preceding.	38 P	28.83	S.	To 2 p.m.
7:00 a.m.	32	28.83	S.W. h.	
12:00 M.	39	28.79	S. W. h.	
7:00 p.m.	39	28.78	S. W. h.	Inches.

Miscellaneous Items.

The Scotch Church, corner of Adams and Sangamon, at present occupied by the Ladies' Christian Union Association, was valued at $140 worth of clothing yesterday morning.

—Edward Everson, for retaining a trunk belonging to Charles Jacobs, of Racine, was sentenced for trial before the Criminal Court, in $100 bail, by Justice Scully, yesterday morning.

—The West Side distributing headquarters of the Relief Society are this week at the Tabernacle Church. Henceforth the world's charity will be disbursed to the poor of Chicago at only two places, besides Standard Hall.

—Joseph Gibson had the illegal enterprise to steal some brass washers from the Northwestern Railroad Yard, and was told by Justice Scully to inform the Criminal Court that he was sorry.

—The alarm from Box No. 37, at 8 o'clock last evening, was caused by a very feeble fire at No. 124 East Twelfth street. Officer John Mahon extinguished the flames before the arrival of the engines.

—A meeting of citizens owning property on Rockwell, Robey streets, will be held this evening at No. 401 Blue Island avenue, for the purpose of taking action against the laying of a railroad track on those streets by the Chicago and LaSalle Railroad.

—A convention of the various Irish Benevolent and Catholic societies will be held on Sunday, the 3d, p. m., at Father Mathew's Temperance Hall, corner of Harrison and Halsted streets, to consider matters pertaining to the observance of St. Patrick's Day. Each society will be entitled to five delegates.

—In THE TRIBUNE the other day, in connection with the ordinance we were made by some careless printer to say that the walls of barns not more than sixteen feet high were required to be built of brick instead of eighteen in thickness. This naturally created considerable disgust at "eighteen" read "eight," and the real state of the case will be arrived at.

—At the West Side Police Court, yesterday morning, Louis and Louise Reno, man and wife, and Charles and Martin Finn, brothers, were charged the first with having received the stolen property, and the other with having committed the theft. The accused denied the charges in both instances, and the case was continued to the 29th inst.

—The residence, No. 85 Judd street, was recently entered by burglars, who robbed it of $600 worth of clothing, plate, and jewelry. The police have been engaged in ferreting out the criminals, and yesterday Detective Simmons, acting on strong evidence, arrested a man named John Reise, whom he accuses of having committed the burglary. Reise is about 22 years old, and has not been previously arrested.

—The Mayor yesterday received a draft of $25 65 from Thomas Kenouf, United States Consular Agent in Jersey, being the amount collected on that little island in aid of the Chicago sufferers. The Mayor also received a draft for $50 sterling from Archibald Murray, the same being the second instalment of relief money from the city of Limerick. Mr. Murray hopes to send a third instalment before long, and that it will be a final one.

PACIFIC COAST.

Corner-Stone Celebration in San Francisco—Search for Pirate Treasures—Escape of One of the Los Angeles Rioters—New Copper Mines.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 23.—Thirty to fifty thousand people witnessed the laying of the corner-stone of the new City Hall building, to-day. Three thousand Masons in full regalia were in line. The entire Second Brigade of the National Guards was under arms.

The brig Lawrier, with another pirate treasure-seeking expedition, sails for Cocos Island to-morrow.

Extensive mines of copper, coal, and marble are reported to have been discovered near Los Angeles.

Thomas Armanta, one of the Angeles anti-Chinese rioters, pending for arson and stealing a diamond ring from the corpse of one of the victims, escaped from the hospital of that city yesterday.

The people of the Mexican Territory in Lower California are greatly excited over unfounded reports of a threatened filibustering expedition from this State.

National Catholic Temperance Convention.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 22.—The National Catholic Temperance Convention to-day adopted a constitution for a permanent organization, and elected the following officers: President, Rev. J. McDevett, Washington, D. C.; Vice Presidents, J. J. Flanagan, New York, and Rev. Quinlan, Georgia; Recording Secretary, Rev. E. F. McCarthy, New Jersey; Corresponding Secretary, B. J. O. Driscoll, Washington, D. C.; Treasurer, T. F. Officer, New Jersey. Delegates were present from thirty-two States, representing three hundred temperance societies, embracing three hundred and fifty thousand members. An address to the people was adopted, and the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

The Lake Fishing Interest.

BUFFALO, Feb. 23.—At a meeting of the Board of Trade, this morning, Hamlin Dormer introduced a strong preamble and resolutions, on behalf of the fishing industry of the lakes, which has suffered terribly by the imposition of the high tariff on materials used in the trade, such as twine, twine, salt, etc., and especially against seine and trolling duties, and declaring in favor of New England fishery bounties. The resolutions also set forth that the Western fishery industry, by the Treaty of Washington, is threatened with additional burdens, and promises to be utterly ruined; urge Congress to extend immediate relief to Western fishermen; request Western Congressmen to favor such an adjustment of the fishery question as will give like privileges, rights, privileges, and drawbacks extended to the fishery interest of other sections. The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

New Orleans Market.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 23.—BREADSTUFFS.—Flour quiet; super, 5c double, $4@$4 25; treble, $4 90@ Corn advanced 1c; high, 71c; yellow, 71@72c; white, 70@75c. Oats easier at 59@60c. Bran,

MAY.—quiet; prime $21 00@$22 00; choice, $24 00. Provisions.—Pork scarce and firm; mess, 19½; bacon, drooping at 6½@8c; sugar cured hams quiet at 12½@12c. Lard scarce at 9½@10c; keg 10½@11. Sugar.—Sugar firm; common, 7½@; good com, 8¼c; fair to fully fair, 8¼@9c; strictly prime, 9¼c. Molasses.—Demand active; inferior, 29@30c; common, 35c; good, 40@42c; strictly prime, 43@45c; strictly prime, 48c. Rice firm and choice, 8@8½c.

EXCHANGE.—Sterling, 20; sight, ½ discount, well, 10c.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 23.—Cotton, 6,940 bales; good ordinary, 12½c; low middlings, 13½c; middlings, 13½c. Receipts, 2,611. Exports—Havre, 2,000; New York, 611. Stock, 22,864. Week's sales, 18,000. Receipts—Net, 35,461; gross, 36,587. Exports—Liverpool, 26,661; Havre, 4,048; Amsterdam, 2,650; coastwise, 5,575.

WHISKEY.—Quiet; choice, 90c@$1 00.

Southern Cotton Markets.

SAVANNAH, Feb. 23.—Cotton—Buyers and sellers apart; demand good; middlings, 12½c. Net receipts, 1,604 bales; exports to Great Britain, 2,660 bales; to the Continent, 1,504 bales; coastwise, 317; sales, 300 bales; stock, 26,049 bales. Net receipts for the week, 4,304 bales; exports to Great Britain, 2,660 bales; to the continent, 2,504 bales; coastwise, 2,109 bales; sales, 11,120 bales.

GALVESTON, Feb. 23.—Cotton—Steady; good ordinary, 12½c; net receipts, 974 bales; exports to Great Britain, 2,716 bales; coastwise, 53 bales; sales, 1,000 bales; stock, 41,478 bales. Net receipts for the week, 4,304 bales; exports to Great Britain, 2,716 bales; coastwise, 105 bales; sales, 7,000 bales.

INDIANA.

An Indianapolis Editor Uses a Convincing Argument with a Gambler—Indiana State Agurian Association.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 23.—A gambler named Bob Smith assaulted J. Nichols, city editor of the *Evening Journal*, this afternoon, for noticing his arrest in a gambling den a few days since. Smith shot at Nichols, the ball passed through his coat, whereupon Nichols knocked him down, and was giving him a sound thrashing, when the police interfered and Smith was lodged in jail, his bail being placed at a heavy amount. The gambler says he intended to kill the reporter.

A number of bee-keepers met in this city to day, and organized the Indiana State Agurian Association, and elected the following officers: President, J. F. Wright, of Columbus; Vice President, Dr. G. Bohrer, of Madison County; E. G. Holliday and W. A. Schofield, both of Marion County; Secretary, J. J. Pope, of Indianapolis. The annual meeting will be held in this city in December next.

WISCONSIN.

Reunion of the First Wisconsin Regiment at Madison—Toasts, Speeches, and a Good Time.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

MADISON, Feb. 23.—There were about 150 soldiers and other guests at the reunion and banquet of the First Wisconsin Regiment last evening, and those who attended report having a good time. General J. C. Starkweather, the old Colonel of the regiment, presided. Governor Fairchild gave an address, embracing a history and eulogy of the regiment. Governor Washburn responded to the toast "Wisconsin," and speeches were made in response to toasts by several other gentlemen.

POLITICAL.

State Prohibition Convention—Nominations—Judge Davis Accepts the Presidency from the National Laborers.

COLUMBUS, Feb. 23.—The Ohio State Prohibition Convention assembled here to-day, and effected a permanent organization by selecting J. A. Spencer, of Cuyahoga, Chief Justice, Charles Reemelin, Cuyahoga County; for member of the Board of Public Works, Milton Kennedy, of Scioto County.

After naming Presidential electors, and for each district, and choosing a State Central Committee, the Committee adjourned *sine die*.

The following despatch has just been received from Judge Davis:

"WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—To E. M. Chamberlain, President of the National Labor Reform Convention: Be pleased to thank the Convention for the unexpected honor which they have conferred upon me. The relief I desire at present I should neither be sought nor declined by an American citizen.

(Signed) "DAVID DAVIS."

THE PACIFIC COAST.

Wine is made from tomatoes in San Luis Obispo, Cal.

—The Arizona *Free Press* is printed with violet ink on lemon-colored wrapping paper.

—Five thousand young almond trees have been shipped from Alameda to San Diego County, Cal.

—The Olympia (Washington Ter.) lady is having a robe made from the skins of birds, which will cost $1,000.

—John H. Curtis, of Helena, Montana, has been left a fortune of $200,000 by a grandnuncle of his, N. B. Alter, of Greenwich, England, who died recently.

—A spring impregnated with asphaltum has been discovered at Los Angeles, Cal.

—The California Legislature has appropriated $1,000 for the erection of a monument over the grave of ex-Governor Bigler.

—A vulture eagle, measuring upward of nine feet from tip to tip, has been killed in Mendocino County, Cal.

—A man-eater shark was lately harpooned near Wilmington, Cal. He fought viciously when captured, snapping a double row of teeth at lance and harpoon.

—Deer are said to be plentiful above Washington and Omega, Nevada County, Cal., and they are fat. As the snow is from five to eight feet deep, they make slow progress, and it is an easy matter to capture them with hounds.

—Marin County, Cal., has voted a subsidy of $150,000 in aid of a railroad from Sausalito, by way of San Rafael, Olema, and Tomales, and thence up the coast to Wahluila River, a distance of 90 miles.

—A Sacramento nurseryman has forwarded to Japan 9,000 fruit trees, of various kinds.

—Joe Bonvirt, of Grass Valley, Cal., went out walking on Dead Man's Flat. He should have been at home on that day reading a Sunday-School book. While he was out he picked up a nugget of gold which was worth $250. The nugget was a quartz specimen which had been washed smooth by time and water. The example of Joe Bonvirt must not be followed.

—A party of Spiritualists have purchased a fine piece of farming property in Santa Barbara County, Cal., on which they intend to establish themselves in a sort of community life, taking the Oneida Colony of New York as a model.

—The Sutro tunnel is now in 2,708 feet, and in very hard rock.

—The horses in Arizona subsist on dry pea vines that would make a horse sick to look at in a civilized country; but the Indians outdo them. They eat the tunas of the cactus, and pepper them with the alkali of the plains to assist the internal machinery in cutting off the rough edges.

—At Yosemite, Cal., Mr. Hutchings has built two new cottages for families; a three-story house of twenty-two rooms, the upper floor expressly arranged for artists and photographers; a fine bathing and billiard saloon, reading room, etc. a free carriage road from one end of the valley to the other; a free trail built at considerable expense, and by which tourists can avoid extortionate ferry charges; also, two new trails, leading to new points of interest, and, like the others, free to all; and the old main buildings have recently been refitted and greatly improved, and the large livery stable is being rebuilt.

—Tony, a little Italian, who peddles pop-corn and fruit in a basket at Eureka, Cal., was once a prosperous merchant of Sacramento, worth sixty or eighty thousand dollars. A few months ago he had his face mashed and his feet wrapped in gunny sacks to prevent making tracks on the ground. As he stepped out in front of the horse on the off-side of the coach, the animal became excited and pranced about frantically. As soon as the box was handed out and the robber was out of sight in the rear, the animal started off at full speed, and a long time elapsed before the driver could bring him to a stop. For two or three weeks after the robbery, the horse invariably pricked up his ears in passing the spot where the robbery took place, and for two or three days it required urging to get him by the place.

—A man with a sloop loaded with potatoes arrived at Vallejo lately, from Taylor's ranch, up the river. He sells them very cheap, and reports that up there they are giving a sack of potatoes for a sack of sand, with which to make an embankment around to keep the water out.

—In the mission at San Gabriel there is a date-palm tree standing some thirty feet in height, which is laden with fruit. This tree, and another small one behind the parochial residence adjoining the Catholic Church, are the only fruit-bearing date-palms in the country. The latter tree, however, is only a few feet in height.

—Judge S. C. Hastings, of San Francisco, is the owner of a large tract of tule-land at Maine Prairie, on which he had a large number of stock pasturing. Having become a convert to the efficiency and reliability of the predictions of the Storm Signal Bureau, a few hours before the late violent and disastrous storm he telegraphed from San Francisco to his son in charge at Maine Prairie to at once remove all the stock from the tules to the high land, as a severe storm was impending. The order was obeyed, and the men barely succeeded in getting the last of the stock out of the marsh a short time before the surplus waters of the Sacramento broke over and inundated the land to the depth of five or six feet.

—Some days ago Harold Milliken was chased by a panther while on his way from his camp to Mendocino City. The animal sprang from a tree on the man and beast, but the latter shied, and his panthership missed them. The panther gave chase some distance. Next day a trap was set and the animal caught. He measured eight feet eleven inches.

—The mint of San Francisco have a practice of examining as far as for surplus any message from an arrested person in his friends outside, explaining them with his incarceration.

—S. M. Brookes, the well known still-life painter, has sold a pair of his choicest fish pictures to Colonel J. P. Jackson, late President of the California Pacific Railroad, for a handsome price. Several of Mr. Brookes' paintings were taken East by Mr. Bierstadt, recently, to be placed in New York and Boston art galleries.

—The Santa Cruz (Cal.) *Sentinel* says: Charles McKiernan, more familiarly known as Mountain Charlie, says that the mountains are full of landslides, many of them of vast dimensions. Acres of huge forest trees have been moved by slides for a considerable distance, and left standing as erect as though never disturbed. This accounts for the large trees which are constantly met, during high water, passing down the San Lorenzo and on to the sea.

—A small fish, imbedded in ice, was found by some workmen engaged in taking ice from the Humboldt to fill the ice-house of Mr. Haynes. The little fellow was solidly encased in ice as clear as crystal, and when placed in water and the ice gradually melted from about it, its rigid life left, the tale quivered, and after turning over a few times it swam away as if nothing had happened. How long an minnow-ship had been thus housed is not known, but probably not less than two months.

—The Los Angeles *News* has the following: There is at present living at the San Gabriel Mission, an old native Californian lady, whose eyes have seen the passing away of several generations. She claims to be 132 years old. She was a mother at the time the Mission Church was built—102 years ago. Her hair is as white as driven snow, but her eyesight is as keen as that of a child, and her step as firm as that of a woman a century younger. She is an expert as a worker of embroidery, and executes the finest work without the aid of glasses. Every day, weather permitting, she may be seen in the fields or orchards near by her residence, busy at work with her needle.

—It is said that the extraction of petroleum is soon to be commenced, on an extensive scale, at San Fernando. Thirty-five miles northwest from the City of Los Angeles, on the road to Fort Tejon, and thirteen miles from the Mission of San Fernando, tunnels have been cut from 70 to 100 feet deep, and all produce good petroleum. The boring is according to the principal of artisian wells, and the same as practiced in Pennsylvania. The petroleum is led through iron pipes to large tanks, and is dipped with buckets from the springs. The cost of transportation to Los Angeles is about two cents per gallon. The cost of refining is about two cents per gallon, upon a small scale, and one and a half cents upon a large scale. The quantity of refined petroleum from 100 gallons of crude is from 60 to 65 gallons. The residuum is valuable for gas purposes, fuel, etc.

THE EX-EMPIRE.

Sale of the Empress Eugenie's Furs.

From the Pall Mall Gazette (London).

The Empress Eugenie's collection of fans, which are for sale, is now on private view at Mr. Harry Emanuel's, 33 Regent street. The Empress rivaled Queen Elizabeth and Maria Antonnette in her taste for regal luxury in fans, and contributed not a little by her example to the revival of the fashion for treating the fan as a costly work of fine art, which has extended to this country, and which led to the special exhibition of fans at South Kensington in 1870. Many of the fans of which she has disposed bear upon itself were seen at that exhibition to which she contributed some of the choicest examples, Queen Elizabeth's wardrobe including twenty-four fans, the Empress' collection includes nearly fifty, and probably exceeds them as much in beauty and costliness as in numbers. Amongst the most curious is a fan painted on vellum by Camille Roquepian, dated the 30th of January 1835, and which formed part of the Empress' corbeille de mariage. It is charmingly wrought in the style of the Watteau period, and in the centre of the elaborately-carved pearl stick bears the Imperial crown, "supported by cupids," and the initials E. N. in gold. The reverse, also finely painted, is only good example of flower and fruit painting. The gem of the collection is a fan which has the additional interest of having formerly belonged to Marie Antoinette. The subject is "La Fontaine d'Amour," the gaurds carved, nearly covered with enamel and diamond ornaments, the stick of elaborately pierced ivory inlaid with turquoise and diamonds, silver and gold. There are some very good examples of Louis Quinze fans, some of which have been remounted on modern carved and pierced sticks of variable merit, inlaid with gold, ornamented with groups of cupids and the Imperial cipher. There are among the mounts signed works of Vouillemot, E. Mosnier, Watteres, Gubbel, Aman Orb, Rosmier, Roquepian, and Franco. Some of the Chinese fans exhibited are souvenirs of the exedition of the Count de Palikao. In some of these are very lovely and artistic trifles the sticks are mounted with enamel and precious stones and rising, as some of them do, to a value of several hundred pounds, they afford a very fair notion of the costliness of Royal toys. Of the other fans on view, one of the most remarkable of the "embrelles" of the Empress; one, which is valued also at some hundreds of pounds, is the well-known parasol which was the delight of the wonder of the Parisians, surmounted by an Imperial crown of purple enamel and diamonds, and having a handle of Louis-Seize work in jeweled and raised gold and green enamel. To ladies the combinations of laces and silks, tortoise-shell ivory and tortoise-shell, no doubt present intrinsic attractions which we cannot pretend to find in them.

A Panther on Ship board.

A disagreeable incident seems to have in some degree interfered with the comfort of three hundred passengers on board the ship Clenarvney on its voyage to Calcutta. One night when they were slumbering between decks in the Straits of Malacca, they were disturbed by the gambols of a black panther who had escaped from a cage in which it was confined, and amused itself by making springs over their prostrate bodies. Their screams having attracted attention, every available means of exit were thrown open, and all the passengers reached the deck in safety. One man alone appeared to have suffered from the claws of the animal, a large strip of skin and flesh being torn off his back. As the panther could not be found, it was concluded that he must have jumped out of the port into the sea, and the next evening the passengers settled down in their quarters as before. During the night, however, the panther turned up again, some boatswain's stores being required from forward, one of the Chinese lascars was sent down to get them, when he presently returned, exclaiming in frenzied fright that the panther was down there." The Captain, determined to stand no further nonsense, immediately sent for his breech-loading rifle and cartridges, and went down the hatchway in person, and ordered it to be closed after him for fear the beast should again get on deck, and cause further annoyance and alarm to the passengers. Presently the flash of the gun startled the saloon and looking around, the large yellow ill-form of the animal glared down on him from the top of some spars stowed along by the ship's side. Taking advantage of the dim light admitted by the port, the Captain took a steady aim at what he considered the centre of the animal's body and fired. Still the yellow eyes glared on, until a second ball being fired, the panther measuring seven feet eight inches in length, rolled dead at the Captain's feet, to his great relief, and no doubt to that of his passengers also.

DIED.

ROBBINS—Mrs. M. E. Robbins, Francestown, Mass., at house, 340 West Madison-st., 1 p. m., Sunday, 24th.

OSGOOD—At 11:40 a. m., Feb. 22, Mrs. Mary Ann Osgood, wife of Chas. Osgood, aged 37 years and 1 months. Remains will be taken to Fort Edward, N. Y., for interment.

☞ New York and Albany papers please copy.

MCMAHON—Feb. 22, Thomas McMahon, at his late residence, corner Polk and Clark-sts.

Funeral will take place on Sunday, at 10 o'clock, by cars to Calvary Cemetery. He was a member of the Hibernian Benevolent Society.

HARLEY—At 12 a. m. Feb. 23, Maggie Harley, wife of G. C. Harley, aged 23 years.

Friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from her late residence, 217 Maxwell-st., at 1:30 o'clock Sunday, Feb. 25.

WANTED TO RENT.

WANTED—TO RENT—A SMALL FURNISHED cottage, or four rooms, in a pleasant place, suitable for housekeeping. Address P 95, Tribune office.

WANTED—TO RENT—A PROMPT PAYING tenant, immediately, or April 1, a store, cottage, or part of a house. South Side preferred. Must be cheap. Address, with particulars, S 12, Tribune office.

WANTED—TO RENT—A NICELY FURNISH. ed room, with board, in a private family. References exchanged. Address, with price, J 11, Tribune Branch office.

WANTED—TO RENT—A SMALL STORE, OR part of store, suitable for cigar trade. Address S 63, Tribune office.

WANTED—TO RENT—3 OR 4 ROOMS, PLEASantly situated, for housekeeping, by a young married couple. South Side preferred. Address, stating location and price, K 73, Tribune office.

WANTED—TO RENT—ROOMS, STORES, FOR the Catholic Church, and dwelling. We have good references. Address, with full particulars, P. A. BRAGG & CO., 46 East Harrison st.

WANTED—TO RENT—A RESPECTABLE family having furniture, wants a house, and would like to board one of the rent. Address M 19, Tribune office.

WANTED—TO RENT—ROOM, FURNISHED OR unfurnished, with fire or without board. South side preferred. Address D 16, Tribune Branch office, 69 West Madison-st.

WANTED—TO RENT—SEVERAL FIRST-CLASS dwelling-houses, furnished or unfurnished. Owners apply to the National Real Estate Bureau, 1 and 3 West Madison-st., Oriental Buildings.

WANTED—TO RENT—A SMALL HOUSE, SIX rooms, within a mile of Court House; rent not to exceed $25. Address M 15, Tribune office.

WANTED—TO RENT—I WILL PAY A GOOD price for a small neat house in some good locality on the West Side. Would prefer it furnished, and would like the advantage of the cling right admitted by the port, the Captain took a steady aim at what he considered the centre of the animal's body and fired. Still the yellow eyes glared on, until a second ball being fired, the panther measuring seven feet eight inches in length, rolled dead at the Captain's feet, to his great relief, and no doubt to that of his passengers also.

CITY REAL ESTATE.

FOR SALE—BY HARRIMAN W. CORBY & CO., Real Estate Agents, No. 45 Hubbard-court. Lease for an elegant 3 story and basement brick on Calumet-av., corner of 32d-st., rented from May 1st, 1872, 14 rooms, fine stable; house and stable in good repair. Price $6,000.

Calumet-av., near Twenty-fourth-st.—4 stories and basement; rent for $1,000 per year.

Four new houses in desirable location on West side, convenient to street cars, 12 rooms each, modern details bath room, etc.; $4,000 each; easy terms; decided bargains.

Two cottages and lots at Hyde Park.

Houses and lots for sale on payments of $20 per month.

FOR SALE—FIRST-CLASS MARBLE-FRONT house and large lot on Ashland-av.

Two-story and basement brick house, Adams-st., near Ashland-av., 24x60 lot; price $4,500.

Cottages on Green, Peoria, and Sangamon-sts. near Van Buren-st.

Two brick stores, Blue Island-av., near Harrison, cheap, to close a partnership.

Lots on Fulton-st., near Western-av., $24@$30.

H. C. MORBY, 116 West Madison-st.

FOR SALE—BY H. C. MORBY, 116 WEST MADIson-st.

22x72 feet, corner Calumet-av., with 2 houses—a choice piece of property for residence or investment—$20,000.

50x130 Wabash-av., near Twenty-sixth-st., east front; $225 per foot.

Elizabeth-st., near Madison, on 6 years' time.

100x100 corner Michigan and Franklin.

40x130, Clinton, near Van Buren.

FOR SALE—AT A SACRIFICE—25 or 50 ft on Wabash-av., 50 ft north of corner of Thirtieth-st. at $100 per foot.

Indiana-av., near Thirty-second-st., 25 ft, with two cottages, only $4,000.

Indiana-av., near Thirty-second-st., 25 ft, with good cottage, only $4,000.

Wabash-av., near Thirty-seventh-st., 25 and 50 feet depth, at only $60 a foot.

J. HENRY WHIL,

Southwest corner State and Harrison-sts.

FOR SALE—FIRST-CLASS PLACE, CONTAINing 10 acres, improvements, very desirable; east front; large lot; cheap; one-third down, balance five years' time. Inquire on premises, 900 Indiana-av.

FOR SALE—CHEAP LOTS ON LONG TIME AT 6 per cent interest; a good opportunity is here offered for those having small sums of money to spare, as the general estate investments are the best one which can now be made of money; $25 to $50 is all we require cash down. BLANCHARD BROTHERS, Real Estate and Loan Brokers, 236 Wabash-av.

FOR SALE—69 WARREN-AV., HALF BLOCK from Union Park—Lot, house, and furniture complete; possession immediately; brick house, stone basement, 11 rooms, all modern improvements; price entire, $10,000. Inquire corner Michigan-av. and Adams-st., at CORNER SHOP.

FOR SALE—INSIDE CITY AND OUTSIDE FOR limits, good building lots on California, Polk, Taylor, and Harrison-sts., convenient to street cars, and on monthly payments; a good opportunity for men of limited means. JAMES H. GILBERT, 122 West Washington-st.

FOR SALE—100x130 ON WABASH AND MICHigan-avs., corner Forty-sixth-st.

100x130 on Wabash-av., near Forty-fourth-st.

50x125 on Lake-av., near Forty-first-st.

Forty-acre tract on Michigan-av., near Forty-fourth-st., with first-class house, containing all modern improvements. Will be sold on easy terms.

A. H. WING & CO., 539 Wabash-av.

FOR SALE—THE VERY DESIRABLE FRAME house, No. 148 Thirty-first-st.; has 13 rooms, water, gas, etc.; lot 50x120; will sell cheap. Apply to owner, 148 Thirty-first-st.

FOR SALE—CHEAP, AND ON EASY TERMS, 100 feet on corner of Thirty-fourth-st. and Vincennes-av. Also 100 feet on corner of Thirty-fourth-st. and Wabash-av. Apply to owner, 148 Thirty-first-st.

Desirable residences and residence property in South Division a specialty.

FRED. L. FAKE & CO.,

540 Michigan-av.

FOR SALE—MICHIGAN-AV., 81x202 FEET ON lot; house and barn; $7,000; easy terms.

100 feet on corner of Thirty-fourth-st. and Vincennes-av.

100 feet on corner of Thirty-third-st.

Desirable residences and residence property in South Division a specialty.

FRED. L. FAKE & CO.,

540 Michigan-av.

FOR SALE—TWO-STORY AND BASEMENT brick house and lot on Ashland-av., 20x150. $6,000. AYRES & KOFF, 541 Wabash-av.

FOR SALE—TWO-STORY AND BASEMENT brick house and lot on Ashland-av., near Twenty-sixth-st., 22x160 feet. AYRES & KOFF, Real Estate Brokers, 541 Wabash-av.

FOR SALE—OUT THE FIRE LIMITS; CHEAP for cash. Lot on Lincoln-av., near Halsted. Price $750; Harrison-st., near Campbell-av., $800; Twelfth-st., Main-st. and Campbell-av., $600; near Rockwell, $400. Long time, small payments down. R. G. GOODWILLIE, 138 West Madison-st.

FOR SALE—SLAUGHTERED FOR CASH AND on time to suit purchaser, 25 lots on Clayton, and in the centre of the elaborately-carved pearl stick bare the Imperial crown, "supported by cupids," and the initials E. N. in gold. The reverse, also finely painted, is only good example of flower and fruit painting. The gem of the collection is a fan which has the additional interest of having formerly belonged to Marie Antoinette. The subject is "La Fontaine d'Amour," the gaurds carved, nearly covered with enamel and diamond ornaments, the stick of elaborately pierced ivory inlaid with turquoise and diamonds, silver and gold. There are some very good examples of Louis Quinze fans, some of which have been remounted on modern carved and pierced sticks of variable merit, inlaid with gold, ornamented with groups of cupids and the Imperial cipher. There are among the mounts signed works of Vouillemot, E. Mosnier, Watteres, Gubbel, Aman Orb, Rosmier, Roquepian, and Franco. Some of the Chinese fans exhibited are souvenirs of the exedition of the Count de Palikao. In some of these are very lovely and artistic trifles the sticks are mounted with enamel and precious stones and rising, as some of them do, to a value of several hundred pounds, they afford a very fair notion of the costliness of Royal toys. Of the other fans on view, one of the most remarkable of the "embrelles" of the Empress; one, which is valued also at some hundreds of pounds, is the well-known parasol which was the delight of the wonder of the Parisians, surmounted by an Imperial crown of purple enamel and diamonds, and having a handle of Louis-Seize work in jeweled and raised gold and green enamel. To ladies the combinations of laces and silks, tortoise-shell ivory and tortoise-shell, no doubt present intrinsic attractions which we cannot pretend to find in them.

A Panther on Ship board.

A disagreeable incident seems to have in some degree interfered with the comfort of three hundred passengers on board the ves-sel Glenarvney on its voyage to Calcutta. One night when they were slumbering between decks in the Straits of Malacca, they were disturbed by the gambols of a black panther who had escaped from a cage in which it was confined, and amused itself by making springs over their prostrate bodies. Their screams having attracted attention, every available means of exit were thrown open, and all the passengers reached the deck in safety. One man alone appeared to have suffered from the claws of the animal, a large strip of skin and flesh being torn off his back. As the panther could not be found, it was concluded that he must have jumped out of the port into the sea, and the next evening the passengers settled down in their quarters as before. During the night, however, the panther turned up again, some boatswain's stores being required from forward, one of the Chinese lascars was sent down to get them, when he presently returned, exclaiming in frenzied fright that the panther was down there." The Captain, determined to stand no further nonsense, immediately sent for his breech-loading rifle and cartridges, and went down the hatchway in person, and ordered it to be closed after him for fear the beast should again get on deck, and cause further annoyance and alarm to the passengers. Presently the flash of the gun startled the saloon and looking around, the large yellow ill-form of the animal glared down on him from the top of some spars stowed along by the ship's side. Taking advantage of the dim light admitted by the port, the Captain took a steady aim at what he considered the centre of the animal's body and fired. Still the yellow eyes glared on, until a second ball being fired, the panther measuring seven feet eight inches in length, rolled dead at the Captain's feet, to his great relief, and no doubt to that of his passengers also.

BUILDING MATERIAL.

WANTED—OLD BRICK—$18.00. ADDRESS D. GOODMAN & CO., southeast corner Clark and Washington-sts., or call from 11 to 12 & 3 to 4.

CITY REAL ESTATE.

FOR SALE—BY D. COLE & SON, REAL ESTATE Agents, No. 45 Hubbard-court.

Block, fine location, will bring large rent. Part cash and long time. Price $30,000.

Washington Heights, 4 acres, 10 rooms, fine stable; house and lot, $6,000.

Washington Heights, 2 acres, 8 rooms, fine stable; house and lot, $4,000.

Calumet-av., near Twenty-fourth-st.—4 stories and basement; rent for $1,000 per year.

Four new houses in desirable location on West side, convenient to street cars, 12 rooms each, modern details bath room, etc.; $4,000 each; easy terms; decided bargains.

Two cottages and lots at Hyde Park.

Houses and lots for sale on payments of $20 per month.

FOR SALE—FIRST-CLASS MARBLE-FRONT house and large lot on Ashland-av.

Two-story and basement brick house, Adams-st., near Ashland-av., 24x60 lot; price $4,500.

Cottages on Green, Peoria, and Sangamon-sts. near Van Buren-st.

Two brick stores, Blue Island-av., near Harrison, cheap, to close a partnership.

Lots on Fulton-st., near Western-av., $24@$30.

H. C. MORBY, 116 West Madison-st.

FOR SALE—BYR. C. MORBY, 116 WEST MADIson-st.

22x72 feet, corner Calumet-av., with 2 houses—a choice piece of property for residence or investment—$20,000.

50x130 Wabash-av., near Twenty-sixth-st., east front; $225 per foot.

Elizabeth-st., near Madison, on 6 years' time.

100x100 corner Michigan and Franklin.

40x130, Clinton, near Van Buren.

FOR SALE—AT A SACRIFICE—25 or 50 ft on Wabash-av., 50 ft north of corner of Thirtieth-st. at $100 per foot.

Indiana-av., near Thirty-second-st., 25 ft, with two cottages, only $4,000.

Indiana-av., near Thirty-second-st., 25 ft, with good cottage, only $4,000.

Wabash-av., near Thirty-seventh-st., 25 and 50 feet depth, at only $60 a foot.

J. HENRY WHIL,

Southwest corner State and Harrison-sts.

FOR SALE—FIRST-CLASS PLACE, CONTAINing 10 acres, improvements, very desirable; east front; large lot; cheap; one-third down, balance five years' time. Inquire on premises, 900 Indiana-av.

FOR SALE—CHEAP LOTS ON LONG TIME AT 6 per cent interest; a good opportunity is here offered for those having small sums of money to spare, as the general estate investments are the best one which can now be made of money; $25 to $50 is all we require cash down. BLANCHARD BROTHERS, Real Estate and Loan Brokers, 236 Wabash-av.